

Budget Recommendation

New '\$75 Million Campaign' Challenges Denomination

ATLANTA — Echoes of the past mingled with visions of the future when the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee approved a recommendation that the SBC in Atlanta endorse a new "\$75 million campaign."

Imbued with the Southern Baptist Convention Bold Mission Thrust goal of telling the whole world about Jesus Christ by the year 2000, the Executive Committee endorsed a \$75 million goal for the SBC's 1978-79 national Cooperative Program unified budget.

Some Southern Baptists remember another "75 Million Campaign of years gone by, out of which Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program grew. That campaign, a five year effort, 1919-24, to raise \$75 million for missionary, educational and benevolent work, resulted in only \$58,591,714, causing some to say it failed.

But it resulted in several things what Southern Baptists gave before the campaign, and it introduced a new era in cooperative giving and missions which amounted to a bold mission thrust for that period in SBC history.

The year after it ended the SBC, meeting in Memphis, Tenn., in 1925, approved the Cooperative Program as a direct result of the new spirit of cooperation generated by the campaign.

The new effort, designed to raise \$75 million in one year through the Cooperative Program, will feel the 1978-79 segment of Bold Mission Thrust.

Subject to approval by the SBC in

annual meeting in Atlanta this week it includes \$62 million in basic operating needs of the worldwide missions program of SBC agencies, \$2 million in capital needs of the agencies, and \$11 million in Bold Mission Thrust challenge funds to cover unmet missions needs.

After distribution to SBC agencies of the \$62 million in basic operating needs and the \$2 million in capital needs, any portion of the \$11 million received would be divided to the Foreign Mis-

sion Board, 54 percent; Home Mission Board, 30 percent; Radio and Television Commission, nine percent; the six SBC seminaries, six percent, and the Brotherhood Commission, one percent.

The basic operating budget of \$62 million would be divided as follows: Foreign Mission Board, \$29,760,000; Home Mission Board, \$12,500,000; Radio and Television Commission, (Continued on page 5)



Alta Woods Entertains

Jimmy Smith, right, staff member at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson, was one of seven clowns from the church who kept visitors entertained and presented a puppet show preceding the Jackson Symphony Concert at Ross Barnett reservoir recently. Smith is giving a balloon to young Aron Tyrone. Aron's father, Walter Tyrone, is at left.

Human Rights Declaration Proposed

ATLANTA — With a reminder that "Baptist history and heritage have been formed in a crucible which has both demanded and produced human rights," the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission was to present a "Declaration of Human Rights" to the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, June 13-15.

Christian Life Commission executive secretary Foy Valentine said the denomination's morals concerns

The text of the declaration is on page 3.

agency will recommend adoption of the declaration "in the conviction that the issue of human rights is of grave importance both in our commitment to Bold Mission Thrust and in the divine imperative to do the gospel.

"The declaration," Valentine explained, "is not an attempt to catalog worldwide human rights abuses; rather, its purpose is to call attention to biblical principles for Christians to use in responding to specific human rights issues."

Valentine said the commission will present the declaration in its annual report to the convention during the Wednesday morning session, June 14.

The special declaration comes at a (Continued on page 5)

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Urban Evangelism

Brazilian Pilot Program Yields 6,000 Conversions

NITEROI, Brazil (BP) — Six thousand conversions to Christ and significant increases in home and church Bible study enrollment have resulted from a two-year pilot program of urban evangelism in the "twin" coastal cities of Niteroi and Sao Goncalo, population, 1.2 million.

Harold E. Renfrow, Southern Baptist missionary and key promoter for the two-year project, reported the total figures on the pilot project of major city evangelization, which served as a testing ground for this Southern Baptist project in Brazil. Two-year totals for the number of

dedications to Christ and attendance are still incomplete.

Niteroi's Rocha Baptist Church, with 180 members, began 73 home Bible study groups as the project got under way. In 18 months, the church's membership increased to 445. Another 100-member church, which started 30 Bible studies, added 200 members in 18 months. Some 3,000 people accepted Christ during the 18-month period in local church services.

Major city evangelization campaigns, designed to saturate major urban areas with the gospel, run for either two or three years. Local Baptists play prominent roles, with auxiliary help coming primarily from the U.S. Other projects are under way in Hong Kong and Korea, with plans being completed for Argentina and

to a Brazilian," related Underwood. "Another Brazilian came along and asked, 'What about me? Can I also trust the Lord?' They prayed. In a surprise move, the second young man tore up the pornographic magazine he was carrying and stamped on his cigarettes."

Dozens of other encounters between (Continued on page 2)



Brush Arbor Evangelism

Guatemalan lay leader gives Southern Baptist missionary Richard R. Greenwood (right) an offering for missions from his church during an evangelistic conference in Sabol, Guatemala. The conference, held in the old-fashioned "brush arbor" style, attracted more than 950 people to an arbor made of palms. The conference was directed by Kekchi Indian Christians, who have the goal of winning 100,000 KCHI Indians to Christ in the next 10 years. (BP) photo by A. Clark Scanlon.

Advertiser Commended For Actions

Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson, has passed a resolution commending Sears Roebuck and Company for withdrawing sponsorship of certain kinds of television programs.

"The voice of a large company like this can be heard," states Wilson Winstead, pastor. "We feel that we would do well to let them know that we support this kind of action."

The resolution stated: "We, a Southern Baptist congregation believe in the teachings and example of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; we believe in the principles upon which our great Country was founded; we realize that television is adding greatly to the decay of our society;

"Sears Roebuck and Company has recently taken a stand against supporting certain programs which have an adverse effect on our society. We commend and support Sears Roebuck and Company for its action in trying to upgrade the television programs, to which we are exposed."

Senior Adults Deliver Own Missions Gifts To Bahamas

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Bold Mission Thrust came alive recently for 174 senior adults participating in a cruise to the Bahamas.

Missions gifts took the form of trumpets, trombones, clarinets, flutes, one accordion and tambourine — in all, 41 band instruments that the senior adults from 18 states gave to the Bahamas National Baptist and Missionary Education Convention.

The instruments will be used to start

two bands — one for Baptist church members and one for inmates in the Bahamas prison.

Sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department, the cruise was designed primarily to provide fellowship, Bible study and opportunities for senior adults to meet Southern Baptist missionaries.

For this year's third annual cruise, Director Adelle Carlson decided to let

participants experience missions first hand. She received a long list of needs from the Foreign Mission Board and

(Continued on page 5)

Mission Service Corps Grows In Healthy Style

By Jack Harwell
ATLANTA (BP) — Mission Service Corps — a brand new baby one year ago with all kinds of speculation swirling about what it would grow up to become — is beginning to mature as a healthy, well-balanced new child

of the Southern Baptist Convention. Leaders of the MSC implementation group, formed last fall to flesh out details of the new SBC volunteer mission program, met in Nashville recently with leaders of many SBC agencies to draft MSC proposals for June 13-15 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta.

Gerald Palmer of the SBC Home Mission Board is chairman of the MSC implementation group, which answers to the convention through the SBC Executive Committee. Palmer told SBC leaders in Nashville: "Basic understandings have been reached between state conventions, mission boards and other SBC leadership. People are responding across the nation. As education and understanding spread among our churches, we predict that MSC volunteers will begin to step forth in amazing numbers."

David Bunch, Home Mission Board coordinator for MSC, said that more than 200 Southern Baptists have applied for MSC spots in the U.S.A. "By the time the SBC meets in Atlanta, we expect to have at least 50 MSC volunteers approved for home mission work," Bunch said.

Lewis Myers, MSC coordinator for the SBC Foreign Mission Board, said that at least 10 overseas MSC volunteers will be approved when the SBC meets in Atlanta. Several dozen more are in screening process for overseas service.

Mission Service Corps officials say they have received 2,500 to 3,000 in-

(Continued on page 2)

BWA Name Used In Puzzling Circumstance

A Mississippi chief of police, Ken Boutwell of Indianola, has warned that a person or persons claiming to be employed by the Baptist World Alliance may be gaining information from Mississippi city directories that will be used to set up home robberies.

Last week a woman appeared at the city library in Indianola, identifying herself as Charlene Hill of the BWA with offices in Atlanta, and asked for a copy of the names and addresses of everyone in Indianola, who works, and what the working hours are.

The librarian described the woman as being belligerent. She wanted to use the library's copying machine without cost but was told she could not use it and copies would cost her 15 cents each. She demanded a discount because of the alleged BWA connection. She didn't get it and there was no list available of who works and when.

(Continued on page 3)

Final Lottie Moon Total Just Under \$32 Million

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptists gave \$31,938,553 in the 1977 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, final tabulation indicated.

The total represents an 11 percent

increase over the previous year's offering of \$28,763,809, or a jump of more than \$3.17 million. The total was 93.9 percent of the \$34 million goal set for the 1977 offering.

"As far as we know, this is the largest single offering any Christian group has ever given to a mission cause," said R. Keith Parks, director of the Mission Support Division of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"The significance of this increase is seen in the fact that most of it comes from grass-roots Southern Baptists," he added. "This type giving underscores the commitment which we as a people have to Bold Mission Thrust as

(Continued on page 2)

Denham Wins Preaching Recognition

Hardy Denham Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Newton, was one of 15 pastors in the nation to be recognized during the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference this week in Atlanta.

The recognition included an award made by the Sunday School Board on Monday night of the conference. The awards were made in recognition of sermons preached during 1977.

This is the second year for the presentation of the sermon awards. The program began with the Pastors' Conference last year in Kansas City.

The 15 award-winning sermons for 1977 were published in book form by Broadman Press and released during the Southern Baptist Convention this week in Atlanta.

As a result of being one of the 15 honorees, Denham was on the program of the National Preaching Conference in April of this year in Shreveport, La. He is a regular contributor to Proclaim magazine, a Sunday School Board publication for pastors. He has two articles scheduled for publication early next year.

Quoted

Untrained Baptists: The decline in church training involvement by Southern Baptists is producing a "generation of theological ignoramuses," Baptist Sunday School Board President Grady C. Cothen told 50 Southern Baptist church training leaders at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

So the board has developed Equipping Centers because many Southern Baptist churches have dropped or greatly reduced their church training programs. The cutbacks have resulted in millions of Southern Baptists who are untrained in biblical doctrine, church operations, Christian ethics and other vital elements of church and Christian life.

The Equipping Center is made up of a group of units or courses of study built around a basic subject area including Christian doctrine, family life, missions, evangelism, church growth, church and community leadership.



(Religious News Service Photo by Bob Taylor)

My Friend, My Dad

Father's Day is June 18.

President's Address

Where There Is A Vision, The People Flourish

Jimmy R. Allen

The Scriptures say, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18. Since that is true, the opposite is also true. "Where there is a vision, the people flourish."

Let us examine this vision: Its source, shape, steps toward accomplishment and strength for fulfilling it.

I. Source Of The Vision

Schemes, plans, and programs usually come from within our own efforts. We set our goals, work out plans, assess our accomplishments. Visions are entirely different. They come from without. They "dawn" on us. They come when we are alert to challenges and discover ourselves coming up with insights and answers. We begin to see things in the light of God's presence and God's promises. Whether there is a highly emotional experience or not, this kind of vision comes from God. We are deeply stirred because of a discovery of God's direction... of the way He is moving and what He wants us to do about it.

The stuff of our vision is familiar to us. The Great Commission has included the idea of confronting every person on earth with the gospel since Jesus Christ gave us the command two thousand years ago. Some things, however, are happening to change the atmosphere in which we are living with a new energy about an old command. There is a stirring across the land... as Samuel says it, there is a sound of a moving in the mulberry bushes. God is up to something. Colleges and seminaries are crowded with talented lay people ready to forsake all and follow him... anywhere on earth. A sense of urgency stirs us with a deep feeling that time is running out... a sense of discovery grips us as God moves to meet our deepest needs.

Old but fresh

The vision is old, but it is ever fresh. It is new. A basic principle says that a difference in degree can make a difference in kind. A gentle breeze is simply wind blowing. If the velocity of that wind reaches 185 miles an hour, you have a hurricane. A difference of degree has made a difference in kind. A slap on the face is a blow. A blow hard enough to crush a skull is also a blow, but it is murder. A difference of degree has made a difference in kind.

The velocity of a mission response which doubles our missionaries, doubles our Cooperative Program, escalates our giving to allow new technologies of communication, and puts at least an additional five thousand volunteers full time in the field serving Christ and sharing His gospel... That's a difference in degree which can make a difference in kind. The vision is something new.

There is a very real possibility that we are on the edge of the greatest explosion of Christian expansion in the history of Christianity. From time to time in human experience God stirs in such intensity. With the vast resources available, the eagerness of spirit emerging, the sense of expect-

ancy gripping our imaginations and making room for faith to claim the victory, the depths of sacrifice being explored by serious Christians, we may be ready to celebrate a breakthrough which none of us have dared to dream about. If it is to be, it is up to God. If it is to be, it is also up to me.

II. The Shape of the Vision

Visions are intensely personal things. Our collective vision's shape must leave room for each of us to perceive for ourselves what God is doing and how our gifts and skills fit into it. However, there are some common denominators in our vision.

1. We are seeing a confused and searching world.

Our vision is of a world of confused and searching people. Jesus saw them as sheep without a shepherd. In the vast carnival of our world, we hear the hawks calling out for attention with varying answers to life's ills. The skills are moving among us, meeting us at our airports with fixed smiles and false messiahs. The voices are strident with anger as they call for overthrow of systems and establishing of yet another materialistic system with a promise of freedom and an end result of tyranny. And the Lord Chaos reigns over the mad festival of pleasure seekers, power brokers, waste makers, searchers running after every new guru, diet, or exercise which promises peace of mind. The spiritual witch doctors of our technological world have many offers but no answers to the deepest needs of the human spirit.

Our vision leads.

To this world of confusion, our vision leads us with the good news of God's revelation. The record of it is the Bible. The center of it is the risen Lord Jesus Christ. A conviction has emerged and strengthened in my spirit this year. We don't have time nor need to debate the authority and accuracy of the Bible. Our confused world does not need to be treated to the scene of Christians tearing at each other vitals over whether their beliefs are being described in just the right jargon. The urgency is for us to announce His Word, explain His Word, live His Word, share His Word. The Bible is true truth. While we are debating the various ways of describing our ammunition, the enemy is taking our world.

2. We are seeing a vision of hungry and hurting people.

There is a yearning in the land. Out of our confusion created by unkept promises and unfulfilled hopes, there is a hunger of spirit. We are weary of the burden of sin and guilt. We are yearning for meaning in lives which are empty and faded. The fear of death is often exceeded by the fear of life. The time is right for harvest. The battered and used woman at the well (John 4) returns from her experience with Jesus to shout to other battered and used people. "See the One who knows all about me and still gives me the refreshing water of life." And they are pouring out of the Samaritan villages of our world... hungry to know him. A "harvest truly plenteous" while

This is an edited version of the address Jimmy Allen was to give to the Southern Baptist Convention this week.

"laborers are few."

Our newly conceived volunteer mission program is already sending agricultural helpers to help people learn how better to help themselves. Have you stopped to realize what Southern Baptists could do about world hunger if we put out a consistent effort to do so? Just one dollar a week... far less than a meal we might miss... would mean thirteen million dollars a week! That's six hundred and seventy three million dollars a year! Our Committee on Order of Business has provided an occasion for a demonstration of concern for hungry people in our world by challenging us to give the equivalent of tomorrow night's meal to world hunger. At the evening service tomorrow night that opportunity will be ours. Some of us will miss tomorrow night's meal to identify with that need and give its equivalent. Others will eat our steak and give it too. But all of us will be reminded that "inasmuch" as we have done it to the least of His brethren, we have done it unto Him. A major consultation on world hunger is being planned this fall.

3. We are seeing a vision of a world of entrenched evil and opportunity.

I've come to a new sense of excitement about Paul's statement that "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (Romans 5:20). The sin which abounds in the evil entrenchments of our world seems to release the grace of God in the most intense and fantastic ways. As we look at the evil around us we are like the servant of Elisha when surrounded by the enemy. We cry, "My father, my father." Then God opens our vision to see surrounding our enemies the encircling angels of fire. He is freed to work where evil is.

And the evil is there. These brief days will see us examining the challenge of it. The concept of family is under fire as never since the first century. Not only are families being fragmented by lightly given promises and self-centered attitudes, but the very idea of commitment to marriage is under assault. Healthy sexual expression within marriage, nurturing of character within families, and discovering the family's role in missions will make up an entire session of our time together.

Dumping garbage

Television, our nation's most sophisticated teaching tool, has been preempted by the profit-makers, committed to dumping the garbage of violence and twisted sex into our living rooms. We believe the consumer has a right and role in changing that and will look at it together.

With our ears tuned to the sound of the world mission enterprise, we are hearing the cries of our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world. The systematic decimation of Christians in some African countries, the harassing and imprisonment of fol-

lowers of the faith in some European countries, and the travail of some of our brethren in Asian countries places the human rights issue high on the agenda of Baptists. We have consistently cared about freedom throughout our history. We are grieved that recently even Israel, which has long been a symbol of freedom because it was built by survivors of holocaust, has reactivated an anticonversion law which hampers the free sharing of one's faith.

Awakening

The deepest level of challenge does not lie in any of these expressions of evil. It lies in the need for spiritual awakening in our nation and our world. One entire session's emphasis together will be centered on the need for spiritual awakening in our nation and our world. One entire session's emphasis together will be centered on the need for spiritual awakening and a great prayer meeting asking God to forgive our sins and heal our land.

And encompassing it all is the vision of evangelizing and witnessing to our entire world... and to every world in which we move.

III. Some Steps For Accomplishing The Vision.

Visions without response mechanisms paralyze, frustrate, and anger us. The greatest challenge of a magnificent obsession is to develop concrete steps for accomplishing it. We have been hard at the task. We will be working at it this week and in the years to come. Some steps deal with attitude and others with actions.

1. Repent of our timidity

Because we have gradually become the nation's largest evangelical body, we have been tempted to measure ourselves against ourselves. We have developed a strange variety of timidity... contrary to the image many non-Baptists have of us, our timidity has been in a strange reluctance to test God's storehouse. He promises to provide all our needs as we are in the doing of His will. In a jet and rocket age, we have set a pedestrian pace for our growth. We must repent of this kind of timidity.

2. Reaffirm our ecclesiology

Our Baptist rhetoric has always said that the local church is pivotal and vital in the kingdom enterprise. However, I am increasingly concerned that our attitudes reflect our rhetoric. If we are to see this vision a reality, it will have to happen basically through the local church. We must avoid the temptation to sacrifice effectiveness for efficiency. It may be more efficient to be connectionalists and make the association or state convention or agency central in our efforts, but the slow processes of democracy in which we are congregationalists is more effective. It is in tune with the Bible's message. Jesus established the church. The only visible manifestation of it in Scripture is the local assembly. The headquar-

ters for the Southern Baptist Convention is in the local New Testament church. There are not great churches and little churches. There are only small ones and large ones. Bold Missions is to be, it must happen in the churches. Here we discover our gifts and call out the called. Here we move from the base line of the tithe on to sacrificial giving. Here we meet the challenge of increasing our cooperative missions giving by fifteen per cent a year and double them within our time goals. Here we develop and debate our doctrines and reject creedalism in favor of the New Testament. Here we stay in touch with the "common people" who heard Christ gladly. We are a movement of the people. If we lose that touch, we become a cut-flower denomination, severed from our root system. The basic strategy for evangelizing this lost world is through the fellowship of the local church.

3. Reorder our priorities

The vision demands that we reorder our priorities. We have tried to capture the phases of the vision in slogans... Bold Growing, Bold Going, Bold Giving. They are three points in a triangle of effort for making the vision a reality. Of course, they are not comprehensive enough. The key is boldness, but the triangle must be at least a five pointed star. Two other elements are essential whether we sloganize them or not. There must be Bold Doing to close the credibility gap of a skeptical world before they will believe our message and trust our Lord. There also must be Bold Praying for God is the author of the vision and the only hope of its fulfillment.

It is bedlam time in our world. Time is running out. We need to be back to the basics. That is what the vision demands:

Bold Growing

The basic Bold Growing. We need to neither glory in artificial growth nor excuse ourselves for lack of growth. While there are some flinty fields in which faithfulness produces growth which is not apparent and spectacular, the fact is that most of our people have never been in a church with a ten per cent growth factor every year. We don't prioritize it because we can't visualize it. Here and there we are experiencing it... the hem of the garment of Bold Growing. Yet it is a basic factor if we are to fulfill his command. New congregations, new units, new efforts, new attitudes... Bold Growing.

The basic of Bold Going. Doubling our permanent mission force in five years is Bold Going. It is also essential if we have the skeletal force of the body which the muscle and tissue of growth at home and among the nationals abroad must have to match our vision. The people are ready for the challenge to go. In addition to that, and excitingly capturing the imagination of our people is the mission service corps. Five thousand full time volunteers in the field serving, sharing, supporting in five years. I have been in services in which 500 young people in one night

have committed themselves to two years in mission service as part of the strategy of their lives. A thousand years of mission service promised to God in one night. The hem of the garment of Bold Going.

The basic of Bold Giving. None of us have managed to sacrifice for Jesus yet. He owns it all. He makes us trustees. As Carl Bates says, "We've had a basic mistake in our refusal to trust the god of Malachi 3:10. Moving past the base line of the tithe to graduated tithing prepares our churches to move to double our Cooperative Program of missions in five years. Over and above that is Bold Giving in sponsoring these volunteers. Many of them are investing their own resources as well as lives. We sponsor folk who go without salary to give themselves in personalizing missions... in making it happen. I watched in one night a group of one hundred Southern Baptist couples decide to give over and above their tithe more than a million dollars of such mission support. The hem of the garment in Bold Giving.

The basic of Bold Doing. A cynical world will care little for our efforts to grow organizations, increase mission personnel, or give more money unless there is a closing of the credibility gap about Jesus. We must demonstrate the difference Christ makes or all our preachments are in vain. I am grateful that Southern Baptists have largely exorcised the demon of racism which crippled our mission witness for years. But many other challenges to Christian behavior remain. The greatest word about the process of sharing truth is found in Acts 1:1. "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and to teach." Doing is teaching. Doing must precede teaching. Without doing, our teaching is vain.

4. Recover our spiritual vitality

For the vision to become reality, we must recover our spiritual vitality. The refreshing of God's Spirit is the essential ingredient for any of this to impact our world. We can labor hard to have the structure and channels and resources of lives available. Unless God moves nothing happens. Like Ezekiel we can watch the bones come together, the muscle and sinew and skin come into place. But the army is dead. The cry of God is "Son of man, can these bones live?" Our response can only be with the prophet. "Only you know, Lord." It is in God's hand.

The essence... the basic... is Bold Praying. One session we will be called to such praying... the thousands of us here in this place... on our knees before God. The threefold emphasis and for that kind of thing... or too earnest... or too pragmatic... or too philosophical... so be it. Someone asks, "Are you trying to go back to the old fashioned prayer meeting of brush arbor revivalism?" My answer is... no. We are trying to go back farther than that... to the old fashioned prayer meeting of the First Century when they prayed boldly.

Conclusion:

In our agony, praying, pleading, giving, doing, we do all He asks us to do we free Him to do all He wants to do. And resurrection comes... life reigns... the vision becomes reality. And where there is vision, the people flourish.

Brazilian Pilot Program

Yields 6,000...

(Continued from page 1)

Brazilians and North Americans occurred during the campaign. As George Cox of Bethany Place Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., witnessed to a young man, he was uncertain if the youth fully understood the implications. "Yes," the youth said. "I do trust the Lord and if you'll let me go, I'll get my mother and bring her to church."

A two-week evangelistic effort in the cities wrapped up the two-year project. Co-sponsored by Baptists from both cities and the Foreign Mission Board, the effort involved 43 pastors and laypersons from Illinois, Alabama, Tennessee, New Mexico and Florida and 29 others from Texas.

During the first week, the featured evangelist was Nilson do Amaral Fani, president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention. The second week, visiting North Americans divided into teams and participated in simultaneous meetings in the cities' 48 Baptist churches, said William H. Ichter, Southern Baptist missionary press representative there.

Attendance during the two-week effort totaled more than 130,000, with close to 3,000 conversions and about 5,200 rededications.

"Nothing of equal importance has happened in this area in its entire history," reflected Renfrow. "We found a receptiveness among all classes of people like nowhere else in the world."

During the preparation, each church surveyed its area and developed a

program for its future. Extensive evaluation also was made of the church's growth or lack of it.

Witness Involvement Now (WIN) schools trained lay persons and a visitation program was developed. The Brazilian Woman's Missionary Union had a significant part in the spiritual preparation as well as in development of a sense of community responsibility, said Renfrow. WMU members organized Bible study groups and led out in counseling.

Renfrow said a School of evangelism enrolled more than 150 and awarded 132 diplomas. He also credited the use of local media as an aid in the success.

Expressing gratitude to God for what was accomplished, Renfrow added, "We're now in the most important part—follow-up. We feel this will determine the success or failure of all this effort."

Education

Promoters

Meet In June

The next meeting of BEAM (Baptist Educational Advancement in Mississippi) will be held on the Clarke College campus in Newton on Thursday, June 29. The announcement was made today by Marjorie Rowden, president.

Convening at 10 a.m., the group will have as their conference leader the editor of the Baptist Record, Don McGregor.

BEAM's membership consists of promotional staff members of all four of the Baptist colleges in Mississippi. Its purpose is to seek ways and means of cooperating and promoting the cause of Christian higher education through joint efforts and through the sharing of expertise.

Lottie Moon...

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expressed in world missions."

Books on the offering closed May 31. Any money received after that date will apply to the 1978 goal of \$40 million.



Christian Cooperation In Action

Baptist volunteer workers, black and white, swarm over the new home of Mulberry Baptist Church in Washington, Ga. The original building was completely destroyed along with three other churches by three teenagers who had been

drinking and smoking marijuana. The workers came from all over the southeastern U.S. and erected the building in about one week as a cost of half the building's value. (BP) PHOTO by Dub Joiner.

Women In Ministry

Space Still Available For Consultation

NASHVILLE (BP) — Baptist agencies participating in a special Consultation on Women in Church Related Vocations, Sept. 20-22, 1978, in Nashville are fast filling their quotas. However, planners have reserved space for Southern Baptists who want to participate in the event.

The consultation will gather a group of denominational leaders, including the leadership of eleven national Southern Baptist agencies sponsoring the three-day activity as a project approved by the Inter-Agency Council of the Southern Baptist Convention.

It will be held in the conference facilities of the Baptist Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville. Mrs. Catherine Allen of the Woman's Missionary Union is consultant chairperson.

Because of space, participation must be limited to about 300 persons, and the participating Baptist agencies are quickly filling quotas. "One third of the space for the consultation, however, is still available to interested Southern Baptists," said Mrs. Allen.

"Those who want to attend the consultation should contact Martha Jo

Glazner, Conference on Women in Church Related Vocations, Baptist Sunday School Board, MSN 152, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

A \$50 registration fee covers advance reading materials, a dinner meeting and a book of findings. All participants will take responsibility for their own transportation, meals and lodging.

Speakers, and those attending the consultation, will examine the present involvement of women in church related vocations, study the trends in this area, and identify barriers to greater involvement.

MSC Grows

(Continued from page 1)

queries about MSC, which represent about 5,000 persons. Of that number, they said, about 85 are either approved for service or far along in the process, as of June 1.

Myers said overseas MSC volunteers are being given specific jobs requested by overseas missions. Volunteers are carefully screened and oriented before appointment. And their financial support is thoroughly "nailed down" before assignment.

Bunch said more than half of Home Mission Board MSC volunteers have been able to provide all or most of their own support.

"We have had surprising financial responses from some Southern Baptists," Bunch said. "One lady in the Northeast, mother of a Baptist minister, volunteered to go for two years, anywhere in America if we thought she could help. She added, 'Or I will give \$20,000 to Mission Service Corps to finance someone more qualified than I am.'"

MSC volunteers are expected to provide their own support, or have financial sponsors for their one or two year terms at home or abroad. They will also provide their own hospital insurance and retirement coverage. The overseas age limit is 68. No age limit has been set for service in the U.S.

A financial formula for sharing undesignated MSC gifts has been worked out by MSC leaders and state convention executive secretaries. That formula will be recommended to the SBC Executive Committee in June.

Persons interested in Mission Service Corps information should write to Ralph H. West, MSC Process Coordinator, 1350 Spring St., NW, Atlanta 30309.

(Harwell is editor of the Georgia Baptist Christian Index)

Learn Deacon Ministry At Home On TV

An experiment in the use of television for church leadership training took place this spring in New Albany.

The project was a study course for deacon training, with participation by at least seven area churches.

The training conference was aired on a cable channel leased by First Baptist Church of New Albany, which provided the time and the TV staff, which, directed by Buster Wilson, filmed and produced the program.

Video tapes from the Sunday School Board's church administration department were used along with live presentations by Leon Emery of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff. It was broadcast over the FBC cable channel in New Albany.



Talmadge Littlejohn interviews a group in the studio.

Group participation totaled 73 with 65 of these qualifying for study course credit. Churches known to participate as groups were: FBC New Albany; Hillcrest Baptist Church; Northside Church; Pleasant Hill Church; Macedonia Church; Ingomar Church; and New Oak Grove Church.

Hillcrest church had 27 deacons and wives present. Not only did they view the five-hour conference, but at the end had an evaluation and prayer session, making plans for the future of their work.



Group from Hillcrest Baptist Church meets in the home of a deacon.

Emery reported that the presentation had several advantages over single group meetings, including opportunities for other family members to become aware of deacon respon-

sibilities, and the opportunity for deacons to get together in small groups in the home.

The event was sponsored by the Union County Baptist Association. Talmadge Littlejohn is deacon coordinator for the association.

Gulfshore

Young Adult Conference Features McCarty, Badry

Phillips McCarty of Mississippi College will be Bible preacher for the Young Adult Bible Conference set at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at Pass Christian, September 1-3.

The conference, sponsored by the

For reservations, write Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. For further program information, write Baptist Sunday School Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.



Badry



McCarty

Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department, will feature music evangelist Jamall Badry as music leader.

Other special interest conferences will be led by Bradley Pope, Baptist Student Union Director at Mississippi College; Phil Stanberry, assistant professor of religious education at MC; Marjorie Rowden, vice president in charge of public relations at William Carey College.

In addition, there will be Bonita Bridges, area consumer management specialist for the Cooperative Extension Service of Mississippi State University; and Bernard Spooner, professor of religious education at New Orleans Seminary.

The conference is designed for young marrieds, singles, formerly marrieds, college students, and military personnel.

Texans Condemn Tax Credit

NASHVILLE (BP) — Baptist leaders in Texas and Washington have issued almost simultaneous protests of tuition tax credit legislation passed by the House of Representatives and being considered by the Senate.

The 82-member executive board for the two million member Baptist General Convention of Texas called on their congressional representatives to reject all attempts to provide tuition tax credits for private elementary and secondary schools, saying the credits would create "unfair competition" between public and private schools.

James E. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D. C., said that the "unprecedented action" taken by the House was "bad public policy, financially inequitable, and simply incompatible with the guarantees for a free and democratic society."

Church Training Weeks Offer Special Seminars

Four special seminars are being offered this summer at Gulfshore during the two Church Training Leadership Retreats, June 26-28 and June 29-July 1, according to Kermit S. King, who will direct the programs.

These special seminars deal with work with the mentally retarded, church recreation, associational leadership, and Church Training for professional staff.

Frank Hart Smith, consultant with the Church Recreation Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will conduct a seminar for church recreation leadership, June 29-July 1. This conference is geared to the needs of the church without a professional staff person responsible for Church Recrea-

tion. Charles Lowry, education division director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, will offer a special seminar on church training for professional staff. This conference is geared to the special needs of pastors and ministers of education. It will be offered June 26-28.

A conference on associational work will be provided during both retreats. Jointly leading this conference will be Ken Mooney, director of the Louisiana Church Training Department and Kermit S. King, director of Mississippi's Church Training Department.

The seminar on work with the mentally retarded will be conducted by Miss Barbara Massey, minister to children, on the staff of the First Baptist Church of Jackson. This is being offered only during the first retreat, June 26-28.

Meridian Pastor Set To Write S.S. Lessons

Jackie C. Hamilton, pastor of Highland Baptist Church in Meridian, will begin writing the Sunday School lesson commentary for the Uniform Lesson Series with the Baptist Record issue of June 29 for the lesson of July 2.

Hamilton follows Hardy Denham Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Newton, as the lesson commentator. Denham was the first writer in a program to use Mississippians rather than out-of-stater William J. Fallis. Rotation is planned on a

six-months' basis. Hamilton is a native of Philadelphia, Miss., but he attended public school in Hattiesburg. He is a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary. Since graduation from the seminary he has been pastor of Terry Church, Terry; Wildwood Church, Laurel; First Church, Quitman; Riverside Church, New Orleans; and his present pastorate.

For four years, 1951 to 1955, Hamilton served in the United States Navy. Presently he is secretary of the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and serves on the administrative committee.

BWA Name Used In Puzzling Circumstance

(Continued from page 1)

She was required to sign a receipt for the names and addresses and the payment, and she used the name of Betty Smith.

Later the librarian became suspicious. Because of the BWA element she called Dan Morton, pastor of First Baptist Church. Morton told her that a

BWA representative would not be likely to be looking for such information. In any event, he pointed out, the BWA would have cleared the action beforehand, and the representative would have behaved in a more becoming manner.

Morton called Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and Kelly called Bob Denny, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance with headquarters in Washington, D. C. Denny said there is no Charlene Hill working for the BWA, and there is no office in Atlanta. There is a Betty Smith on the staff, but on the day in question she was at work in Washington. Additionally, Denny said the BWA had no part in the activities described.

Denny suggested turning the matter over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, so Morton called Boutwell. The chief of police said there is nothing the FBI can do yet because no law has been violated but that areas where this sort of thing has happened can expect a rash of home burglaries. The woman had said she got the same information in Cleveland, Miss.

Boutwell said the persons who operate these schemes usually go to the smaller cities. They get the names of the residents and their address, read the personals columns in the newspapers to find who will be out of town when, and move in with the robbery, he declared. He suggested that persons asked to give city directory information be cautious, though there is no law violation in obtaining such information.

Additionally the chief suggested that those families that will be away from their homes over a number of days should get the neighbors to gather the mail and pick up the newspapers as well as keep an eye on the house. He said a light left on the house would be helpful and the family would need to be sure that all windows and doors are securely locked. Then he said the family should notify the local police department, which will maintain a particular vigilance on that house while the family is away.

The Missions Task Prophets For Profit

By John Alexander, Director
Stewardship Department

Some Baptists, because of the excellent teaching and training they have received, are very generous when appeals come for various needy causes. A few of our people give to these extra-church causes with the best of motives for those who make the appeals are super-promoters. There is much hunger and physical suffering in the world today. If all of us gave all we have, it would not solve the problem, for the root causes cannot be cured by any amount of money. When we do give to relieve hunger and suffering, I am interested in our Baptist givers getting the most good accomplished with their gift.

Of recent date, more than one television extravaganza has been produced to solicit funds for world hunger. The promoters receive a sizeable sum of money. The question is, "How much of that money has to go to pay for the television time? How much of the money actually gets to the hungry and starving multitudes? What cause or philosophy is strengthened by those who distribute the funds in the community needing them?"

When Baptists want to give to world hunger they can get 100 cents of every dollar given to the people who are hungry by channeling their gift through their church and denomination. The Foreign Mission Board is set up to speed these funds to the missionaries on the field who know what the needs are and are prepared to respond to those needs in the name of Christ. The Cooperative Program pays the freight on such gifts so they can go completely to the needy! Gifts made through the local missionaries also help to strengthen their relationship with the people and communities where they are giving their lives for Christ and Southern Baptists.

News stories of late have raised serious questions about the financial policies of several recognized religious leaders. These stories should cause each of us to try to distinguish more carefully between prophets and profiteers in religious and charitable giving.

How? Those who make public appeals for money without bothering to give an accounting of how much they receive or how they spend the money need careful scrutiny.

Those who appeal for money to support one program or project and use it for something else are not worthy of our support. Money given for a special cause should be used for that particular cause.

Those who claim a monopoly on the truth and solicit on that premise should be marked off as either dishonest or ignorant.

Those who make a broadside appeal to peoples of all denominations are more political than prophetic and are not as virtuous as they seem.

How can a lay person, sitting at home reading the paper and listening to the radio or looking at TV, know the answer to all these matters? They can't. Because of this they would be well advised by Jeremiah to "... Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way; and walk therein." (6:16). The Cooperative Program and special mission offerings have served the denomination for years. Our Mission Boards have proved their faithfulness and responsibility.

Religious profiteers are not new. They are mentioned in both Old and New Testaments. Jesus gave scathing denunciations of such religious profiteers calling them hirelings rather than true shepherds of the flock.

Any time you want to give to a cause worthy of your gift given to God, your church and denominational channels are the safest method for getting maximum good from your gift. If you choose another route and wind up realizing you have been taken to the cleaners, you have no one but yourself to blame!

With over 2700 missionaries in 88 countries and territories, the denomination is ready to receive your gift and speed it to those dying of hunger and disease. Don't waste your money get the most good for it. Give it through your church and denomination.

Religious Leaders Ask For Policy On Families

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — National representatives of six religious faiths, including Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Allen, have formally appealed to the organizers of the 1979 White House Conference on Families, asking that the conference focus on the development of a national policy which will support the American family.

In a written statement to HEW Secretary Joseph Califano, who has re-

sponsibility for the conference, the religious leaders expressed concern that various groups may try to manipulate the conference into an opportunity to publicize "alternative lifestyles."

"We recognize," says the statement, "that families must adapt to cultural change; but we view as regrettable the implications from some quarters that marriage, parenthood, and family life represent outworn or obsolete social institutions."

RA Camp For Summer

Royal Ambassador Camps will be offered this summer in Bellefontaine, Hattiesburg, and Clinton.

Resident Camps will take place at Dorrah Lake Camp at Bellefontaine, July 3-7, and July 24-28; and at Paul Johnson State Park in Hattiesburg, August 14-18.

For boys in grades 4-12 in the 77-78 school year, the camps offer such special emphasis as: camping skills, crafts, and swimming. Cost is \$42 per boy.

Crusader Mini-Camps will take place at Camp Garaywa in Clinton. The first mini-week is August 7-9; the second is August 9-11. These are for boys in grades 1-6 during the 77-78 school year. Emphases will be on crafts, swimming, nature study, and advancement. Cost is \$21 per boy.

Make reservations with \$5 registration fee per boy for any of the camps, along with the appropriate registration form to the Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Camper's Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Telephone: _____	Age: _____
Parents' Name: _____	
Church: _____	Camp Attending _____
Enclosed is my \$5.00 registration fee.	

Declaration Of Human Rights

(Drafted by the Christian Life Commission for presentation to the Southern Baptist Convention on June 14, 1978.)

PREAMBLE. Human rights is a major moral issue of our time. It has captured the attention of the world. Introduced into the political equation it has threatened world peace on the one hand and engendered new hope for the oppressed on the other. Widespread abuses of human rights have helped create a rising tide of concern for the poor, for minorities, for dissenters, and for political prisoners. Baptist churches have a special stake in the issue of human rights for our own Baptist history and heritage have been formed in a crucible which has both demanded and produced human rights.

DEFINITION. Southern Baptists believe that humanity is created by God in God's own image (Genesis 1:26-27). We believe that in Jesus Christ, God "so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). We believe, as our nation's founders said in the Declaration of Independence, that all persons "are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." And we believe with the framers of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights that human rights include freedom from involuntary servitude, arbitrary arrest and imprisonment, torture, unfair trial, cruel and unusual punishment, and invasion of privacy; rights to family life, property, work, and equal pay for equal work as well as food, shelter, health care, and education; and freedom of thought, speech, assembly, religion, movement, and participation in government.

BIBLICAL BASIS. Southern Baptists stand for the worth of the individual, the priesthood of the believer, freedom of conscience, and the sanctity of life. We hold that these human rights are the gift of God. We believe that they spring from the Bible's revelation that all persons are made in "the likeness of God" (James 3:9, RSV). We believe that

they are vitally related to Christ's life and work and death and resurrection whereby, "having slain the enemy" (Ephesians 2:16) by bringing alienation and hostility to an end, He brought into being a new humanity oriented toward "new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13). We believe that they coincide with the Bible's teachings in support of justice, mercy, peace, and righteousness. We believe that every human being has basic human rights which may not rightly be relinquished, abridged, or denied. Moreover, we believe that Jesus Christ revealed His own support for human rights when He declared, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19, RSV).

SCOPE. Today we are confronted with abuses of human rights at home and abroad. As in the days of the prophets, God has looked for justice among the people of the earth and too often has found exploitation; He has looked for peace and too often has found bloodshed; He has looked for righteousness and too often has found the cry of the poor, the hungry, the orphaned, the widowed, and the oppressed (Psalm 10:18; Isaiah 1:23; 3:14-15; Amos 2:6-7; James 1:27:1-9). We are gravely concerned about the widespread denial of human rights at the hands of our political allies as well as our political adversaries. Our concern for tortured, unjustly imprisoned, and politically oppressed persons abroad is matched by our concern for the rights of women, blacks, ethnic minorities, the poor, the aging, the sick, and abused children in our midst. Christians are obligated not only to provide in Jesus' name cups of cold water for individuals whose human rights have been violated but also to deal in a forthright and corrective way with structures and systems which abuse and violate human rights. We are

determined not to take our own rights and freedoms so light that we ignore the rights and freedoms of others no matter how far away or how small or weak they are; and we are determined to be courageous defenders of human rights who will not be deterred in the fight to make all people free.

CALL TO ACTION. We therefore issue this call to action on behalf of human rights.

Let Southern Baptist citizens be committed to political action on behalf of human rights at home and abroad, responsibly involving ourselves as God's salt, God's light, and God's leaven in the whole political process.

Let Southern Baptist pastors, knowing that "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Corinthians 3:17), preach the word of God without fear or favor as it highlights human rights.

Let Southern Baptist churches be boldly involved in championing justice for the oppressed, providing food for the hungry, supporting changes in those laws and systems which manipulate the poor while providing welfare for the rich, doing the things that make for peace, and effecting change where change is needed to support basic human rights.

Let Southern Baptist agencies demonstrate by words and deeds an unwavering loyalty to Christ issuing in uncompromised and uncompromising commitment to human rights.

Let Southern Baptists not be weighed and found wanting in commitment to God-given and Bible-based human rights. Let us heed Jesus who said, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. . . . As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:35-40, RSV).

RECOMMENDATION. The Christian Life Commission recommends the adoption of this Declaration.

Youth Conference To Include Musical

The Ninth Baptist Youth World Conference which meets July 19-23 in Manila, The Philippines, will include the premiere of a musical written especially for the conference.

Sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance, the conference is expected to draw youth from 30 nations.

The Followers, with lyrics by Ed Seabough and music and orchestration by Mark Blankenship, develops the conference theme, "Jesus Christ — the One Light for All People."

"The entire production is a contrast between the darkness and hopelessness of the cross and the light and hope in the Resurrection," said Seabough, a well-known lyricist who is in charge of the evening sessions.

Sunday School Board, set out to utilize a variety of musical styles.

The musical begins at the cross with what Blankenship calls a "dirgeful spiritual." "They've Taken Him Away." Other songs are written in the styles of a ballad, praise anthem, a lively, rhythmic number and a theme song which can be sung by the congregation.

The Followers will be published by Broadman Press.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Across The Jordan River . . .

A Joyous Reunion

Joyful reunions are occasions to be remembered, and one in Jordan will not soon be forgotten by six of Southern Baptist journalists.

The site was the Allenby Bridge, the link over the Jordan River between Jordan and Israel. Though we were in the Middle East as guests of both nations in a rare if not unique cooperative situation, neither nation could see to it that we got across the bridge and securely into the hands of the other government. It was a journey of only a few yards; but going both ways we made it on our own and without any knowledge of what would happen on the other side. There was no means of communication between the two sides.

The Jordanian government had furnished us two cars and drivers for our visit there, and Mississippian missionary Paul Smith had been with us every step of the way, making it a fantastic trip. His superior knowledge of the country and its people had made it almost in fact an unbelievable trip.

We divided the Jordan trip into two parts by a visit to Israel, worked out beforehand with Israeli authorities through W. C. Fields. Smith had asked that we carry his son, Tim, to the river because the young man wanted to spend a few days backpacking in Israel before the family left the area.

At the Allenby Bridge a Jordanian carted our luggage halfway across and set it down. An Israeli picked it up in the middle and carted it the remainder of the way and unloaded it, still some distance from the Israel checkpoint. We were sort of left hanging, but a bus load of American tourists picked us up and carried us to the checkpoint. Tim was still with us. We unloaded at the checkpoint and said goodbye to Tim, not knowing when we would see him again. He was to travel in the West Bank, populated mostly by Arabs, and he could speak Arabic, so he was all right. We wondered about ourselves, and the tourists were looking through the bus windows feeling sorry for us,

when an Israeli governmental official came along to take us in tow. Soon a van, driver, and guide were there; and we spent four interesting days as guests of the Israelis.

As our Israel visit came to an end we began to be apprehensive about the return trip across the Allenby Bridge. Our Israeli guide helped all he could, but he could not cross the bridge. We did not know if anyone would be there. Again the bags were carted half way across and picked up by the Jordanians. As I approached the center of the bridge, I turned to wave at the guide. He was standing on the Israeli end watching us as we made the transfer.

We had gathered the six of us, in a small office building just on the Jordanian side, wondering what would happen next, when a familiar figure appeared in the door. It was Tim Smith. He was just returning from his back-packing journey.

Here was a friend who knew our needs, who could speak the language,

and who could tell us what was going on.

What a joyous reunion that was. Soon the course of action was explained and the same two drivers were there shortly to carry us back to Amman. It was good to see the familiar drivers again, but the reunion with Tim was one that will live long in the memory.

Matthew tells us of the reunion between a lord and his servants after the lord had traveled to a far country. The servants who had been faithful heard the lord say, "Well done," and surely it was a joyous reunion. The Master, as He was detailing the parable, compared this to the reunion that is to take place in Heaven.

And John, in his Revelation, tells us, "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them into living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

That will be a glorious reunion. — DTM



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Train To Atlanta

Cusseta, Alabama was the place I liked best to be when I was ten. When Betty and I spent our summer holiday there with Aunt Evelyn and Uncle Chester we had three favorite activities: babysitting with our cousin Owen; saving bottle caps from the soft drinks Uncle Chester gave us from his grocery store; and watching the trains to Atlanta.

Only a few feet from Aunt Evelyn's front porch is the railroad that splits the little town into halves. The store—closed now for many years—was next door to the house.

Often we watched the freights go by, the engineers in striped caps waving and grinning. Most exciting time, though, was when a passenger train stopped at night. We'd hear the whistle and soon the enormous light would appear, shining down the rails. If it were a long train, it would practically reach the whole length of the town.

The conductor would alight, almost beside Uncle Chester's store. Standing by the track, we could see the dining car inside the lighted train—the tables covered with white linen cloths, the waiters in white coats placing silverware on the tables or serving cups of coffee. In other cars people were looking out the windows. Some would wave; others appeared to be half asleep. It looked like an enchanted world and when the conductor called, "Board," I wanted to follow him.

It was not until six years later, in 1945, that I first rode the train to Atlanta. (The Southern Baptist Convention had met there the year before.) Uncle Wende, drove Daddy and me to the depot in West Point. When our train arrived, we hurried up the steps and walked through the cars until we found a pair of facing seats.

In Atlanta, Daddy and I decided we were thirsty, so we went into a drugstore and sat down on high stools at a marble-topped counter. We ordered Coca Cola in the city where the drink had been created and first sold in 1886. Then we went outside and simply

stood on a corner for a long time, drinking in the sights of the big city. I was on the way to a hospital at Emory for minor eye surgery but we didn't spend time worrying about that. We were too excited about our adventure.

As I look back, that morning in Atlanta was one of life's perfect moments. I have read somewhere that it isn't the quantity of time you spend with your children as much as the quality. That morning with Daddy was top quality. He died seven years ago, but if I could see him again this Father's Day I'd like to thank him for sharing his impression that the world, even though it has evils, is still a good place and that life is something to be savored.

The city of Atlanta was named for a railroad. In 1837 in the wilderness of north Georgia an engineer drove a stake in the ground to mark the southeastern terminus of the Western & Atlantic. The community that grew up there on the connecting ridges 1,050 feet above sea level was first called Terminus, and later renamed Marthasville. Then John Edgar Thompson, chief engineer of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, called his new depot Atlanta, as the feminine form of Atlantic. With rail freight marked Atlanta, the name of Marthasville was soon discarded.

I drove to Atlanta Sunday to attend the Southern Baptist Convention. "It might be fun to make the trip by train," I had thought last week, so I checked on the schedule.

To get to Atlanta by train from Jackson now, I would have to go by way of New Orleans, leaving slightly after 7 in the morning and arriving at 10:45 a.m. I'd have to spend the rest of the day and night in that city and leave next morning at 6:45. In Meridian, I'm told, I'd probably have a lay-over of six hours, and then get to Atlanta just past midnight on the second day after I've left home. Nevertheless, I want once more, before my favorite way of travel disappears, to ride the train to Atlanta.

For Private Education . . .

House Passes Tax Credits

This past Sunday was Religious Liberty Day across the Southern Baptist Convention. In the wake of such an observance perhaps it would be fitting to consider an event of the past few days that will have a direct bearing on the concept of religious liberty.

The U. S. House of Representatives has passed a bill designed to allow parents of children in parochial and private elementary and secondary schools as well as private and religious colleges and universities to keep for themselves some of the tax money they normally would owe the nation's treasury.

The family could keep no more than 25 percent of what it pays on tuition, of course. For colleges it would scale upward from \$100 per student this year to \$150 in 1979 and \$250 in 1980. For grade schools it would go from up to \$50 per pupil this year to \$100 next year.

This measure still requires passage

by the Senate, which has a history of passing such legislation. The president has declared he would veto it.

Without doubt, such a measure would find mixed reactions in Mississippi. There are a large number of children in private schools. Surely it would be a welcome benefit to many of these families to keep for themselves from \$50 to \$250 per child of what they would owe in federal income taxes.

Truly, the issue of public money for private education has become thorny. What was once a strong and thriving public school system has been seen to falter and to become almost disorganized in some areas. Some large public school systems are even facing the possibility of not having enough money with which to operate. According to news reports, they seem to be in shambles.

The new measure just passed in the House would add to the woes of the

public school. It would encourage additional families to remove their children from a school situation with which they are not happy. The public schools would thus lose additional state per-pupil support.

The cost to the federal treasury across the nation, however, would eventually be billions of dollars. Either the federal government needs this money for operations, or it doesn't. If it is needed, then taxes would have to be raised to meet the need. If the money is not needed, then income taxes could be lowered for all of us, and families could send their children whenever they wanted to.

Andrew Leigh Gunn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said, "A majority of representatives failed to recognize that the tax credit plan would seriously erode religious liberty and church-state separation, cause in-

calculable damage to our public schools, and tax all Americans to support the division of our children and the fragmentation of our society along religious, racial, class, and other lines."

When the courts ordered bussing to achieve racial mixing in public schools the health of public education was threatened. This new measure certainly will not help to restore a healthy public school system.

If the nation would return to a neighborhood school situation that did not have to compete for tax dollars with private schools, perhaps we would be on the road back to a happy school experience. Tax dollars, whether federal or state, come from the same source. They shouldn't be used to help religious organizations educate their children.

Father's Day . . .

Honorable Life Deserves Honor

In a principle laid down milleniums ago, our Father God said, "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

Two thoughts seem to be apparent immediately. The first is that a father

should be honorable. He cannot expect to be honored by his children unless he deserves it. Any right-thinking parent, however, will be determined to do the very best he can in the rearing of his children.

The second thought is that if the father deserves the honor of his chil-

dren, it is an ungrateful child indeed who fails to honor him. The Lord is telling us that this is expected of us.

May both of these factors be present in the lives of all of us as we approach this Father's Day. May all of us who are fathers truly live honorable lives before our children. Then may we who

are fortunate in having our fathers still living let this day serve as a reminder that honor is due those who have sought to serve well as parents.

For those fathers who have gone on, this should be a day to honor their memory.

Letters To The Editor

For Father's Day

Dear Editor:
I am enclosing an article entitled "A Father's Day Tribute" with the hope that you might be able to use it in "Letters to the Editor" or on the Editorial Page of your excellent publication. I have endeavored to present in it the highest ideals for Christian father-

hood. I trust it merits your favor.
William Hall Preston
Nashville, Tenn.

A Father's Day Tribute

Christian fatherhood is ever the divine ideal!

Fortunate indeed are you if there is a fine, true Christian, gentleman at home who is rejoicing with you in life's plaudits and standing by to shield you from life's blows. He neither expects nor asks for any reward save that of a life worthy of a bit of sacrifice and selfless love.

If you are the daughter of such a dad, you can and undoubtedly will, frequently let him know of your loving appreciation.

If you are his fortunate son, standing upon his shoulders today, you can in a measure repay him by being his second chance to live. He wants you to be an even finer dad than he has proved to be.

If you are the cherished wife and companion of a noble husband and father, the indispensable guardian and guide of your home, assure him of your abiding love.

We honor ourselves by honoring with our lives Christian fatherhood at its best — our dads on Father's Day — June 18.

William Hall Preston
(author of
"Fathers Are Special")

The author's son of the same name lives in Booneville, Miss.—Editor.

Convention Picketing

Dear Editor:
While reading the article, "Gay Rights Activists Plan Bryant Picketing," I wondered what the "gays" think Southern Baptists stand for. In his statement, the spokesman for the "gays" stated, "We are not picketing the Southern Baptist Convention. What we are demonstrating and picketing against is what she stands for." Don't we Christians in the Southern Baptist Convention feel as Miss Bryant does? I should pray so. I believe all Christians should feel this and we should let unbelievers know we do not approve of this or any other such enormous sin. We should witness to "gays" and unbelievers. Jesus Christ died for their sin of unbelief as well as ours.

It is high time for Christians and Christian leaders to get off our laurels and go to work for God by witnessing for Him and seeing the lost won to Christ and America redeemed. May we get back to our Christian ideals, beliefs and moralities or else an angry God is going to call judgment upon us.
David Milam
Heidelberg, MS

Foreign Mission News

Dear Editor:
I am the press representative for the Foreign Mission Board in the Philippine Mission. Just recently I received a tabulation of the news releases used by our State Baptist papers.

From that tabulation I noticed that your paper used 136 news releases from the Foreign Mission Board during 1977. Please allow me to commend you for the emphasis you have placed upon the world mission events. Surely God will bless that emphasis to strengthen and broaden the vision of your many readers for our global task.
William T. Roberson

American Bible Society

Dear Editor:
We are in receipt of the check from the Mississippi Baptist Convention in the amount of \$733.50. An acknowledgment letter will be sent to each church who made this gift possible.

The American Bible Society expresses appreciation for your continued support.

Arthur C. Borden
Secretary, Church Relations
American Bible Society

Welcome To Annapolis

Dear Editor:
On July 6 about 1300 young men and women will begin their Plebe year at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. We here at Heritage Baptist Church would like to learn the names and home addresses of those who are coming so we can write them, extend a welcome, and offer to meet incoming flights and provide transportation or assist in other ways.

Fred T. Moffatt, Jr., Pastor
Heritage Baptist Church
1740 Forest Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

WILL IT MATTER WHAT I WAS? by Edward C. Briggs; Broadman Press; 137 pages; \$4.95.

The author is pastor of Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Church in Silver Spring, Md., a suburb of Washington, D. C. He asks if in the passing of time the individual really matters. Who will be remembered 100 years after death? Does it make any difference how we live? Briggs searches the ways that a person's character does make a difference and concludes that when an individual is still counts.—DTM

LET THE HAMMER DOWN! by Jerry Clower with Gerry Wood; Word Books, 4800 West Waco Drive, Waco, Texas 76701; 180 pages; \$6.95.

Jerry continues to draw from life to present funny and inspirational situations as only he can. An unforgettable episode from the new book relates how he was lying in a hospital bed unable to attend a state championship football game in which his son was playing. As he listened to the game on the radio the Yazoo City team took the opening kickoff and Ray Clower delivered the final block that cleared Larry Kramer for a touchdown. The underdog Yazoo City team went on to win the game. Those who know Clower will want to read this book because it is Jerry. Strangers will want to read it to become acquainted with the "Mouth of Mississippi." "Let the Hammer Down" is Clower's philosophy of deciding what is worthwhile and pursuing that goal with an all-out effort.—DTM

YOU CAN WIN OVER WEARINESS by W. Ross Foley (Regal Books, paper, 176 pp., \$1.95) A pastor devotes these pages to what the Bible has to say about weariness, its causes and cures. He says that the Scriptures give us some powerful principles that will help to win over weariness.

THE ACROSTIC BIBLE by Barry Huddleston. (Thomas Nelson, \$2.95) Is Scripture memorization difficult for you? This is the book to buy! It will help you get a "handle" on the Scripture. Short four-word phrases introduce you to each chapter of the Bible—from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22. Then, reading down the page chapter by chapter, the first letters of the phrases summarize the theme of each book. The quick, sharp catch-phrases will stick in your mind to help you remember the content of the Bible. For example, the Old Testament book of Lamentations becomes the acrostic, DIRGE. Each book of the Bible is illustrated with a drawing that will help you remember the acrostic for that book. For instance, the book's cover has an illustration for Lamentations. It's a group of men singing a dirge while a weeping-buzzard looks on.

BILLY GRAHAM, HIS LIFE AND FAITH by Gerald Strobe (Word Books, 144 pp., Young Reader Edition) This new pen portrait of America's greatest 20th century evangelist answers many questions about Billy Graham's life and beliefs. For instance: What is he like as a family man and private citizen? How does he view other religions? How has television contributed to his ministry? How has he in some ways become a "victim of his success"? Several chapters discuss his friendships with various U. S. presidents. The book has three parts—the first telling about Graham's life and career, in chronological sequence; the second on Graham and his major issues; and the third on Graham, the man and evangelical leader. It is written in simple terminology so that young readers may be able to understand it, but is easy and interesting reading for the older person as well.

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Beirut Students Know War, Learn Love Through Christ

By Ruth Fowler
Staff Writer, FMB

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Students at Beirut Baptist School have never known a time when there was no war in the Middle East. Death is a part of their daily lives.

For the last few years the war has come to their city, their streets, their homes. Even the small child suffers anxiety. One loud noise, a sudden sound, and calm faces cringe with fear.

Southern Baptist missionaries work with these students, their families and the community in a ministry of hope. Through education, the students also receive a witness for Christ. In Beirut Baptist School 600 students study, play and worship together. They range in

ages from 3 to 18 and come from both sides of the civil war.

Not all of the students believe in Christ as a personal savior, but in those that do missionaries see a marked difference.

"Their gentleness," said James K. Ragland, missionary director, "is so outstanding against the brutality encouraged by the war. It is based on a belief that God's chief attribute is power."

An important part of their faith is the hope of eventual peace and the surety of eternal peace.

The second visible difference is the reflection of this inner peace in a "certain calmness" in the face of uncertainty and violence, Ragland said.

The school's purposes have not

changed since its beginning. It has remained open throughout the war and the shaky peace which has followed.

"We work in the school for the physical, spiritual, social and mental progress of its students," Ragland continued. "We hope that through the work of the school the student may know God, his world and himself, and then dedicate himself to the service of his Lord and his society."

Former students have returned to the school to teach, as part of a staff who are all believers. The students attend chapel daily and some of the young ones cry if rain forces them to miss their daily walk across the schoolyard to the service.

Because of the war, the peace and love offered through Christ is even more of a refuge than before. The students feel the pressures of the guns on every corner. Many have lost loved ones; some themselves have fought in the war.

The school has not operated in a vacuum. People in the community where it is located have come to respect the school, Ragland said. Non-Christian men from the community come to quietly guard the school at any sign of trouble.

These volunteers walk around very casually, talking to students and parents. But they are there. "The school and the work is important," one of them said. "We want to protect it."

The missionaries feel as never before that Christ is the only hope for peace.

They see the school as building better relationships now that will last into these students' adulthood.

As children from both sides of the war hug each other goodbye at the end of the day, peace seems possible, even if on a small scale.

Their hugs have no hatred. And a place without hatred is unusual in Beirut.



Kindergarten children attending a daily chapel service at Beirut Baptist School turn to look at the photographer as a Lebanese teacher tells a story. Leola (Mrs. James K.) Ragland, Southern Baptist missionary, is preschool director. The school is located in a primarily Muslim area but serves both Christian and Muslim students, ages 3 to 18. (FMB) photo by Ruth Fowler.

Senior Adults Deliver Gifts To The Bahamas

(Continued from page 1)

decided band instruments for the Bahamas. The right request to fill because the senior adults could personally deliver their gifts.

Each cruise registrant was asked to search their attics, make announcements in their churches, collect used instruments and bring them along as baggage. Thirteen senior adults from First Baptist Church, Rome, Ga., made collecting band instruments a group project. Kenneth Moyers, minister of music at the church and worship leader for the cruise, purchased used cases for some of the instruments.

While docked in Nassau on the second night of the cruise, the senior adults presented their gift following a concert by the Bahamian United Baptist Choir.

The 41 instruments were carried in and laid on the ballroom stage which temporarily became an altar. Horace Kerr, senior adult section supervisor at the Sunday School Board, formally presented the instruments to R. E. Cooper and Michael C. Symonette, president emeritus and executive secretary of the Baptist Convention. The

local Baptist prison chaplain also was present.

"I've never seen a group more appreciative. There was an electric atmosphere. It was also exciting for our people to see the impact of their gift," Kerr said.

"I think the tangible evidence of caring meant everything," Miss Carlson said. "We feel these senior adults practiced what we're preaching on Bold Mission Thrust." (SBC goal to present the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000).

The symbol "&" is called an ampersand in English and represents the word "and". But it is not English in origin, nor is it limited to this language. Marcus Tiro originated this figure in 63 B.C. as part of a shorthand system he used to record Roman senators' speeches. His system contained more than 5,000 symbols. Yet, the ampersand is the only figure to have survived history. Why this figure survived while the others disappeared is unexplainable, but it is one of the few symbols that are readily understood in numerous languages. — GRIT

Human Rights

(Continued from page 1)

time when human rights have drawn international attention, due largely to the determination of Jimmy Carter, Southern Baptists' best known layman, to make human rights a major focal point of his administration's foreign policy.

Southern Baptists, the declaration states, believe that basic human rights "are the gift of God" and that these rights "coincide with the Bible's teachings in support of justice, mercy, peace, and righteousness."

In a "call to action," the declaration challenges Southern Baptist churches to be "boldly involved in championing justice for the oppressed, providing food for the hungry, supporting changes in those laws and systems which manipulate the poor while providing welfare for the rich, doing the things that make for peace, and effecting change where change is needed to support basic human rights."

Washington (BP) — Federal employees whose religious obligations require them occasionally to miss work would be allowed to work overtime under a provision of the Federal Employees Flexible and Compressed Work Schedule Act of 1978, which has passed the House of Representatives.



16 From State Receive Doctorates From N. O. Seminary

Sixteen Mississippi students received doctoral degrees from New Orleans Seminary recently. Of those, 13 are shown with Landrum Leavell, seminary president. They are (front, l-r) Jack Farmer, Laura (Mrs. Clint) Morrison, Clinton Morrison, William Crosby, Clifford Estes, Charles Bagwell and Roy McHenry. Back row includes Leavell, Randall Perry, Thomas Strickland, Edward North, Talmadge Smith, Jerry File and Jimmy Nunnelee.

Ridgecrest Prepares For Summer Crowds

By Mark Sandlin

RIDGECREST, N. C. — Ridgecrest Conference Center is putting the final touches on remodeling and training of staff in preparation for the capacity crowds expected this summer.

According to Ken McAnear, conference center manager at Ridgecrest, the extensive remodeling of classroom areas will be completed and the rooms ready for use the first week of summer sessions.

The renovation of the Crystal Springs classrooms and the classrooms above the dining hall has resulted in many needed improvements, McAnear said.

Remodeling has eliminated the noise caused by inadequate partitions between rooms. He said the off-season work has also added storage space, lighting, and air conditioning to the classrooms.

"Faculty input was valuable in re-designing and remodeling of the classrooms," McAnear said. He continued, "Since they will be the ones using the classrooms we remodeled with their suggestions as guidelines."

A vital area of preparation for the capacity summer is the training of the 300 college-age staffers. Selected from 900 applicants the staffers represent a wide cross section of young people.

In four days the staffers undergo intensive training to prepare them for the crowds of people they must serve. From simulated ice cream traffic jams in the Nibble Nook to hurrying hordes in the dining hall the staffers are placed in actual pressure situations and learn to respond.

With a scant week of preparation, the staff faces Church Recreation Week which has the largest crowd of the summer, 3000 people.

Expressing confidence in his staff McAnear said, "It is best to have the large crowds first. The staff is eager and tries extra hard to perform. After only four days of training the staff is expected to perform at peak capacity. . . and they do."

A word of caution to Ridgecrest conference goers this summer. Interstate 40 is undergoing heavy construction in the Ridgecrest area. Traffic is heavy and turns are not well marked, so please drive carefully.



Pace And Davies Give Concert At Mt. Zion

Tami Pace and Alice Davies were guest musicians at the Young Musicians Banquet May 20 at Mt. Zion Church, Columbus.

Tami Pace just finished the sixth grade at Newton Elementary School. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pace, she and her family are members of Calvary Church, Newton.

Despite being legally blind from damage to the optic nerve, Tami was talent winner in the Newton County Little Miss Pageant of 1977 and placed in the top ten in the state pageant. She has had many opportunities to sing and share her testimony. Mrs. Davies has been her voice instructor for two years; accompanied her, sings with her, and does their musical arranging.

Mrs. Davies graduated from Mississippi College. She earned her master's degree from North Texas State University, and served on the music faculty of Clarke College.

Harrell Wilcox is the minister of music at Mt. Zion. Ray Hill is the pastor.

\$75 Million

(Continued from page 1)

\$3,000,000; Southwestern Seminary, \$3,779,574; Southern Seminary, \$3,005,235; Southeastern Seminary, \$2,086,709; New Orleans Seminary, \$2,109,362; Midwestern Seminary, \$1,232,266; Golden Gate Seminary, \$1,195,854 (plus an additional \$74,000 special endowment) SBC Operating Budget, \$602,000; Brotherhood Commission, \$575,000; Christian Life Commission, \$420,000; Annuity Board, \$300,000 (for relief); Education Commission, \$290,000; Stewardship Commission, \$275,000; Public Affairs Committee, \$255,000; Historical Commission, \$220,000; Southern Baptist Foundation, \$170,000; American Baptist Seminary, \$150,000.

Daybreak To Perform At Florence

Daybreak, the youth choir of the Shirley Hills Church, Warner Robins, GA, will perform "Bright New Wings" Friday, June 16, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Church, Florence.

The Georgia youth are concluding a tour of Texas. After the concert, Daybreak will present a film about the group's 1977 mission trip to Washington, D. C. Ron Smith is minister of music at Florence; Bob Hutcherson is pastor.

Open House For Heritage Room

First, Brandon Claims Oldest Missionary Society In State

By Anne McWilliams

First Church, Brandon was one of eight historic churches to hold centennial tours the week of May 29-June 3. The tours called attention to places that were important to the early history of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, which is 100 years old this year.

Other churches that invited the public to open house were First, Natchez; First, Columbus; First, Clinton; First, Jackson; First, Vicksburg; First, Grenada; and First, Carrollton.

Guests who visited at First, Brandon, were given a tour of the newly decorated Heritage Room, established this year as a part of the Mississippi WMU centennial emphasis.

The Heritage Room is in what was

for many years the department for four-year-olds, according to Tommy Baddley, pastor. He said that from the estate of former members of the church, the Jones Rea Family, came the funds that made it possible to transform the room to the elegant decor of the 1830's and 1840's.

First, Brandon was constituted in 1835. It claims the oldest Baptist female missionary society in the state. Though the state organization did not begin until 1878, some individual churches did have societies sooner. As early as 1837 there were ladies' societies in the Brandon and Palestine churches.

An April 17, 1957 letter from J. L. Boyd to Carey Cox (then pastor of First, Brandon) stated, "The Brandon

Baptist Church was the first Baptist Church in the state, so far as we have records, which had a female missionary society. This society in 1836, 1837, and 1838 donated \$10 each year to the Mississippi Baptist Convention for missions to have their pastor (T. S. N. King) to have the privilege of being a full-fledged member of the convention . . . We are asking that a room in the church building be designated as a memorial room. . . ." (King was treasurer of the convention.)

The Heritage Room is like a parlor in the middle of the 19th century. Ivory striped silk wall paper covers the walls, above walnut stained pine wainscoting. Light fixtures are bronze. The doors and window frames have been milled to order.

White Victorian lace panels and red velvet swags at the windows are draped to the style of the period. An Axminster print carpet is complete with hair padding. The red roses in the black and red design complement the red flowers in the antique sofa.

Pulpit chairs and marble top table from the church's old sanctuary, formerly in use for over 100 years, are now in the Heritage Room.

A display case is an antique from Shields' Store on Town Square. It holds rare items such as a navy taffeta dress made and worn by Mrs. Carey Cox at the WMU Diamond Jubilee Pageant in Jackson in 1953; a hat pin worn by Mrs. Tom Cox on her wedding day — she joined the church in 1916; a 79-year-old beaded purse given Miss Anne Henry

on her 16th birthday; an oriental fan that belonged to Mrs. W. D. Ragland, first RA leader at the church, in 1929.

There are rare books and pictures. A red velvet album was presented in memory of Mrs. J. R. East, first Sunbeam leader (in 1919). This contains pictures and biographies of WMU leaders up to the present day.

This year the WMU organizations at First, Brandon, have 125 women enrolled, according to Mrs. Benton. During the centennial tour week, hostesses served coffee and cookies to visitors from Brandon, Clinton, Rosedale, Pontotoc, Oklahoma, and Alabama.



Mrs. G. H. Graves and Mrs. Ray Leach look at the guest register on the antique desk in the Heritage Room to find out who has come to visit during the week. The bronze plaque on the wall states that the room was made possible by a gift from the estate of the Jones Rea family.



Left to right are Mrs. Ruth Dickson, Mrs. G. H. Graves, Mrs. Belle Stockstill, Mrs. Ray Leach, and Mrs. A. L. Benton. Mrs. Benton, Mrs. Leach, and Mrs. Graves are members of the Heritage Room Committee. Mrs. Dickson and Mrs. Stockstill were two of the hostesses who greeted guests and served coffee during the week of WMU centennial tours.



The Heritage Room is representative of a parlor of the 1840's. Note the wainscoting, Axminster print carpet, antique bookcase, and fern stand.



"Mrs. A. L. Benton, WMU director at First, Brandon, points to a marble top table, over 100 years old, that was in the foyer of the old sanctuary. The pulpit Bible is open to the WMU watchword, I Cor. 3:9. The pulpit chairs also were in use in the church for over 100 years.



The picture of Brandon Baptist Church in 1882 is an enlargement from an old picture postcard. The frame is over 100 years old. (The church was constituted in 1835.)

416 Children Enter Bible Drill Finals; 375 Are Selected As State Winners

Four hundred and sixteen children participated in the 38 state final Bible drills sponsored by Mississippi Church Training Department in five areas of the state. Of these, 375 were selected as state winners. Sixty-five were named state winners for the third consecutive year.

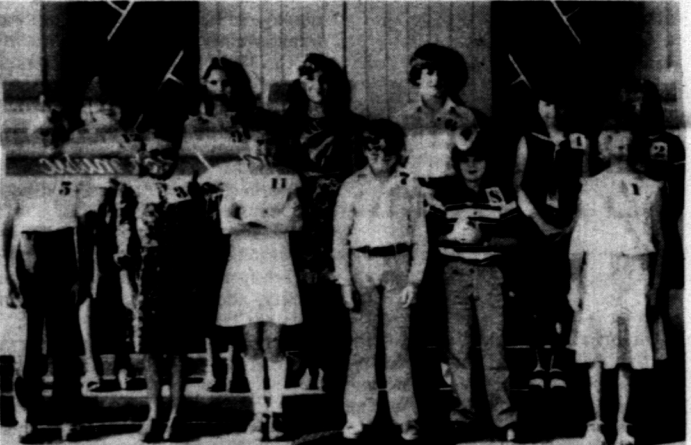
Area drills were held in April at First Church, Biloxi; Easthaven Church, Brookhaven; First Church, New Albany; First Church, Greenwood; and Clarke College, Newton. Participants in the drill at Brookhaven are shown on this page.



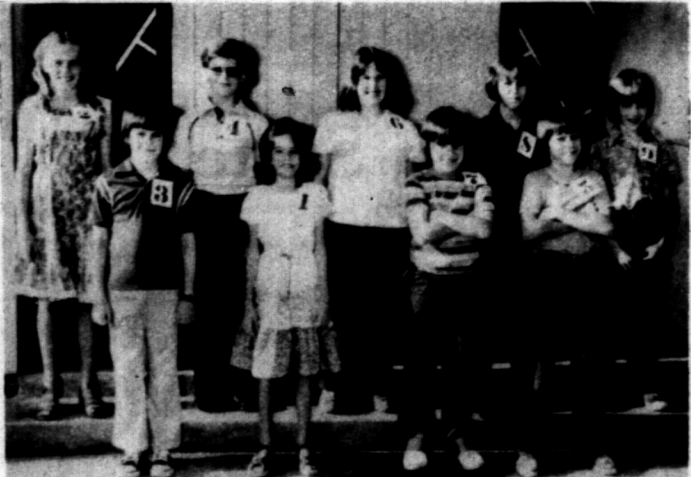
GROUP Q: 1, Leslie Turcotte, 2, Robin Fox, 3, Angela Cook, 4, Damon Durr, 5, Derek Holmes, 6, Bobby Browning, 7, Carl Widdig, and Ginny Ulmer (not numbered), all from Morrison Heights Church. Leaders are Linda Axtell and Randy Hankins.



GROUP L: 1, Dwayne Luke, New Bethlehem; 2, Tara Rawls, Improve Church; 3, Reuben W. McDowell, Improve; 4, Robert Hughes, New Bethlehem; 5, Bob Welch, New Bethlehem; 6, Lenell Cliburn, Central; 7, Renee Wallace, Central; 8, Rebecca Labeth, Central; 9, Carol Ann Fairchild, Central; 10, Timothy L. Jackson, Berwick; 11, Alana Lynn Case, New Prospect; 12, Pam Case, New Prospect.



GROUP O: 1, Gilda Holbrook, 2, Kim Hutcherson, and 3, Lyn Henry, First, Florence; 4, Melody Shea Dungan, Parkway, Natchez; 5, Andy Douglas and 6, Mike Lewis, New Sight Church; 7, Matthew Dunn and 8, Tim Porter, Central Church; 9, Joy Smith, 10, Shannon Lee Stockstill, 11, Robin Carol Batte, and 12, Carolyn Ann Greer, Topisaw Church.



GROUP P: 1, Dawn Smith, 2, Holly Hollman, 3, David R. Hudson, and 4, Robert Troy Simon, Oak Forest Church; 5, J. Hugh Wells, 6, Gale Griffith, 7, Christopher Baham, 8, Mark Thompson, and 9, Kevin Lewis, East McComb Church.

Of the 87 participants at Brookhaven, 73 were named state winners. Adding church winners, and associational winners who did not attend the state finals, brings the total number of 1978 participants in Children's Bible Drills to 496. The number of total participants has grown from 205 in 1972 to 496 in 1978; the number of churches participating has grown in the past six years from 64 to 149; and the number of associations participating has grown in that period of time from 33 to 54.



GROUP R: 1, Shea Sutherland; 2, Vicki Akin; 3, Sharon Antrim; 4, Robin Boy; 5, Adrian Oakes; 6, Allison Oakes; 7, Michelle Enis; 8, Carol Johns; 9, Lauren Lentz; 10, Leslie Chaffins; 11, Vicki Van Egmond; and 12, Susan Antrim, all from Calvary, Jackson.



GROUP M: 1, Betsy Ballow, 2, Lana Wells, 3, Paula Staples, 4, Mark Leggett, and 5, Scott Sellers, Alta Woods Church; 6, Miranda S. Case, and 7, Troy Ezelle, Jr., Easthaven Church; 8, Vicky Charlene Buitt, Mt. Moriah Church; 9, Vic Chamberlain, Jr., Morgantown; 10, James M. Goldman, 11, Kathy Diane Jones, and 12, Annette Burks, Parkway, Natchez.



GROUP J: 1, Truett Hayman, 2, Susan Shivers, and 3, Jennifer Bridges, Whitesand Church; 4, Marissa Ross and 5, Tracie L. McCurley, and 6, Rachel Betts, First, Jackson; 7, Trey Carley, 8, Mamie Whitehead, and 9, Ruthie Burkett, First, Columbia; 10, Edna Jackson, 11, Kimberlyn Steele, and 12, Shella Johnston, Mt. Pleasant.



GROUP K: 1, Marie Logan, 2, August v. Martens, 3, Michelle Diane Henderson, 4, Misty Smith, 5, Clifford Wheeler, and 6, Sharon Ragsdale, all from Woodville; 7, Kim Howell and 8, Darlene Thornton, First, Crystal Springs; 9, Chris Chance and 10, Lisa Langston, Hepzibah; 11, Tammy Gandy, Bethel.

SCRAPBOOK

FATHER'S DAY

I REMEMBER DADDY

Today I took a lovely trip right down memory's lane,
And for a brief span of time, I was back home again.

I walked the same old pathways I walked when but a child,
The sights and sounds of that old place couldn't help but make me smile.

There was Daddy, clad in overalls and blue denim shirt,
Walking briskly to the barn, to begin a long day's work.

As he made his way along the morning, he didn't seem to mind,
That the little boy, the image of his dad, followed close behind.

Every turn that he would make, so did the little boy,
Stepping in Daddy's tracks, just filled his heart with joy.

My dad was never famous, just a plain and simple man,
Who barely made a living from the tilling of the land.

He never had the finer things of life that most of us enjoy,
But daddy was a millionaire, in the eyes of that little boy.

He never had a chance to go to school and learn like you and me,
But this son was just as proud of him as if he'd earned a Ph.D.

Now Daddy's gone from our old place; things aren't like they used to be,
And I know that I can never go home again, except in memory.

But Daddy's waiting for me, and I'll be there bye and bye,
To be with him forever, in those mansions in the sky.

—Johnny Parks, Pastor, Second, Kosciusko
(Written May 20, 1978 in memory of my father, Otis Parks, who passed away May 12, 1976)

"As A Father Pitieth . . ."

A wise son maketh a glad father (Prov. 10:1).
A son honoureth his father (Mal. 1:6).
Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him (Ps. 103:13).

Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? (Mal. 2:10)
And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. (Prov. 4:1,2).

For whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth (Prov. 3:12).

Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not (Prov. 27:10).

My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind these continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life (Prov. 6:20-23).

Letter From A Son

Dear Dad,
I'm writing to say I love you. I'm proud of you and you are a wonderful Dad! Sometimes your role must seem like a forgotten one. A Dad seldom wins any awards or hears the praise he deserves. I guess I'm guilty as anyone on that score. You've helped to make my world wider, pointed my way in new directions.

You made the growing-up years an adventure; a time of laughter, learning, and love. You've always been thoughtful with a great concern for the little things that seem important to me. You listen with love, you're able to tune in on the same wave length with me, and your understanding of me helps me to understand myself.

You're lots of fun, Dad. I hope you know that! You take time to enjoy life and share the joys with others. You add merriment to chores and make my good times even better.

You've been an inspiration, too, you may not know it, but it's true. You guided me when I needed it and let me go it alone when you saw I needed to stand alone.

Most of all, you're a loving Dad. You overlook my shortcomings, and make me feel it's great to be me. You've brought me so much happiness. You made our home a Christian home and it was through your life that I came to know Jesus.

Dad, I may not say thank you many times but you've been the greatest inspiration in my life. And, Dad, I want my life to be just like yours.

Your Son,
(Reprinted from Ruhama Baptist News)

The Missionary

The old man walked alone each day
He had no one to care
Should he fall along the way
Would anyone be there?

His soul cried out for something
He could not comprehend
His heart was sore and weary
His life was bathed in sin.

The young man walked with God
each day

He taught both young and old
The bright and sunny Christian way
Worth more than all man's gold.

One day He met the old man
As he walked in his despair
He told him then of God's plan
And his kingdom. . .

Through his torn emotions
The old man heard the call
of Jesus, Lord and Saviour,
and Master of us all.

—Rhonda Lott, 16
Friendship, Grenada

Month Of Weddings

Match the husband's name with that of his wife.

J
U
N
E
sau

1. Abigail
2. Judith
3. Bathsheba
4. Rachel

For Life And All Its Gifts

We thank Thee, Lord, for life,
And all its gifts: for strife
With good o'ercome; for rest,
Thy promise to the blest;
For courage, faith in Thee;
And now we wish to see
Thy Spirit touch the lost.
We're counting not the cost.

We thank Thee, Lord, for strength,
Thou givest us, and length
Of days on earth to serve,
Thy will, dear Lord, nor swerve
From Thy straight path of right,
Till day shall dawn, and night,
Shall pass away. Amen.
—Ruby Ricks Fulton

Powdered Alcohol Product Poses New Drinking Threat

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Thanks to a combination of American and Japanese ingenuity, a new alcohol product will soon hit the market which promises to worsen the national hangover of alcohol abuse, particularly among young people, according to a spokesman on alcohol-related issues for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Powdered alcohol, an "all you add is water" product, is now being test marketed on the west coast, and Americans can anticipate an onslaught of advertising, says John A. Wood, director of program development for the Christian Life Commission.

Developed by the Japanese, the first

powdered alcohol products are being introduced by Global Marketing Services, which is hoping for nationwide distribution by the end of the year.

The final obstacle keeping powdered alcohol from entering the market was removed recently when the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms reached a decision on how to tax the product.

The "instant cocktails," which follow the introduction of the six percent alcohol candy bar and the alcohol milkshake, are further evidence of a trend in the alcohol industry to make alcohol "as acceptable and accessible as possible," Wood claims.

"Once again we are faced with the basic problem of regulating alcohol,"

he says. "Powdered alcohol is another idea whose time hasn't come. It should never have been placed on the market. Even the social drinker should recognize the enormous potential for abuse in this product. It is a product aimed at getting the new drinker and getting the present drinker to drink more. And it is tailor-made for abuse among young people."

Wood said that concerned persons who are interested in how the new product will be controlled in their state should contact the state's alcohol control agency, which is responsible for regulating where alcohol may be sold. The only way to keep the product off the market in a state, he explained, is through legislative action.

Boyce School Presents Diplomas

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Three Mississippi natives were presented the Diploma in Christian Ministry at the June 2 graduation of Boyce Bible School here.

Dr. G. Allen West, executive director of the Long Run Baptist Association (Louisville), addressed the 29 members of the school's largest graduating class. Boyce School director David Byrd presented the graduates their diplomas.

Graduates from Mississippi include Mick M. and Ray Moseley, Magee, and Charles J. Woolen, Belmont.

Revival Results

First, Booneville: April 30-May 3; three professions of faith 20 rededications; prophecy revival led by W. D. Steward, Oklahoma City, OK.; Wayne Meeks and his wife, of Laurel, musicians. Tom Rayburn, pastor.

Just For The Record



BABY DAY was held May 21 at FIRST, COFFEEVILLE. Children enrolled in the Nursery Department were recognized and their mothers given a corsage. Pictured are: (front row) Mrs. Howard Williams with Emily Madison, Mrs. Allen Freer and Jonathan, Mrs. Gerald Fly and Rachel, Mrs. Harry DuVall,

Kathleen and Suzanne, Mrs. Frank Owens and Russ, Mrs. Mark Haley and Stephanie, Mrs. Donnie Summers and Eric. (Back row) Mrs. Allen Irwin and Justin, Mrs. David Kilgore and Davy, Mrs. Tyler Wortham and Tyler III, Mrs. B. B. Billingsley and Kim, Mrs. Les Tillman and Will, and Mrs. Ed Edwards and Angela.



FIRST CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS. Girls in Action were recognized recently in an awards ceremony. Paul D. Aultman, pastor, presented each girl with badges for completing work in mission action, mission support, mission study, and direct evangelism. GA's are Lori Glenn, Carol Smith, Colette Tatham, Kim Thompson, Candy Cleveland, Beth Camburn, Ramona Argo, Mary Fuller, Lisa Rudolph, Bonnie Duke, Michelle Alford, Jeanne Fry, Leah Bishop and Dawn Newman.



PAUL D. AULTMAN, pastor of First church, Ocean Springs, presented awards, at a recent Acteen recognition service, to Service Aide Carole Wyatt; Queen Regent in Service Kim Thweatt; Queen Regents Nan Hodges, Kena Burgess, and Betty Taylor; Queens with Scepter Sharon Ramsey, Susan Wyatt, Lee Green, Sarah Newman; and Queens Terri Green, Lydia Ruebel, Teresa Lewis and Lynn Rogers. The coronation theme was "Tell the World." Paul Vandercook, language ministries missionary on the Coast, was the guest speaker.

Revival Dates

Bethesda Church (Hinds-Madison): June 18-23; Joe Stovall, pastor of Park Hill Church, Jackson, visiting speaker; Glenn Nations, pastor.

First, Summit: June 21-25; Gospel recording artist Steve Boalt of Boca Raton, Florida, singing and preaching; Boalt is a composer, arranger, vocalist, trumpeter, and pianist. He has a three-octave vocal range. He presently serves as minister-at-large for Bibletown Community Church and Conference Center, Boca Raton, Florida. For many years he has been featured as soloist and choirmaster in

city-wide crusades with Canadian evangelist Barry Moore and has been on Stephen Olford's national telecast, "Encounter". Dennis Johnsey, pastor; services at 7 p.m.

Providence (Lawrence): June 25-30; S. A. (Sonny) Adkins, New Hebron, full-time evangelist, preaching; Mickey Sandifer, Topeka Church, song leader; Mrs. Sherry Greer, Providence Church, pianist; Sunday morning and afternoon services, but no Sunday night service; dinner on the grounds Sunday; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; John L. Carlisle, pastor.

Staff Changes

Mrs. Floyd Higginbotham has resigned as secretary to the director of missions in Attala County, as her husband is moving to the pastorate of Calvary, Batesville. Mrs. Don Nerren has accepted the position as secretary to the director, Levon Moore. Her husband is pastor of Parkway Church, Kosciusko. She has taught English for the past three years.

Valton Douglas has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Helena, to

move to the pastorate of Northside Church, Columbia.

Wilbur Hall has resigned the pastorate of Kreole Avenue Church, Jackson County, to become pastor of Pleasant Hill in Clarke County.

Nolan Mapp, pastor, Unity Church, Jackson County, has resigned in order to do pioneer mission work in the Northwest.

Missionary News

Stanley and Glenna Stamps, missionaries to Nicaragua, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Apartado A-138, Managua, Nicaragua). Before they were appointed in 1962, he was director of missions for the Mississippi Baptist Association, Liberty.

Edmond and Mary Ann Moses, missionaries to South Africa, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mr. C. O. Moran, Rt. 2, Box 489 C, Orlando, Fla. 32810). She is the former Mary Ann Pugh of Mississippi.

Murray and Ellen Edwards, representatives to Mexico, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Box 457, Pine Mountain, Ga. 31822). Before they were appointed in 1974, he was pastor of Calvary Church, Columbia, Miss.

What this world really needs is a computer which can figure out all the things in life that don't add up.

Parkway Layman Pays To Put Prayer On The Line

By Anne McWilliams

A layman at Parkway Church who prefers to remain anonymous is paying the long-distance telephone bills to have prayer put on the line. He told retired minister W. R. Storie to call anybody anywhere in the world if he felt the Lord wanted him to call and pray with someone.

Seventy-five and nearly blind, Storie still spends at least 20 hours a week praying with people by telephone. The layman pays for all out-of-city and out-of-state calls.

Since Jan. 30, 1975, Storie has prayed with over 5,000 people in many states. Bill Causey is pastor of Parkway Church where Storie will have a new office next to the prayer chapel in the new building that the church has under construction.

An article about Storie's putting prayer on the line appeared in the Baptist Record about two years ago. This was followed by articles in Moody Monthly and Church Administration magazine. Since these appeared he

"God has answered my prayers in marvelous ways," the telephone minister said, "I have seen childless couples given children, unbelievers turn to God, unemployed find jobs, the lonely find comfort, the sick find strength and healing. I pray that God's will may be done. I don't want anything He doesn't want."

He recalled one instance when a friend asked him to call a former secretary of his in Florida who had been told that she had cancer of the colon, and should have an operation immediately. When Storie called her she had just returned home after extensive hospital tests, and was very despondent. He talked with her, quoted Isaiah 41:13 and prayed with her.

Of this encounter the friend reports, "She told me that as Brother Storie was quoting the Scripture verse and praying with her that she felt her worries just lifted. In a few days she began to feel much better. Doctors decided not to give the cobalt treatment. In another examination they found no trace of the malignancy and so decided not to operate. It has been over a year and doctors believe that she is all right."

Storie said, "I am having the biggest time I ever had in this work. I love it and wish it could just go on forever! I am grateful that as old as I am that the Lord can still use me."

Storie's office number is 354-8701. His home phone is 922-3594.



W. R. Storie

has heard from many people all over the country.

"A lady wrote me from California," Storie said, "after she read the article in Moody Monthly, and sent her telephone number, wanting me to call and pray with her. She was crippled and shut-in. When I called, she asked how much was the charge for the call, and I told her nothing. I could do that because I knew it would be paid."

Storie spends a lot of time calling Parkway members, but he also calls others in hospitals and in other places. The other morning, for instance, he called a layman at Forrest General Hospital in Hattiesburg.

Because of poor vision he often needs help with telephone numbers. Mrs. Storie writes the numbers in figures large and black enough for him to see. "My wife is a great help," he said. "She is a great Christian and loves the Lord." Usually he is at the church from 9 to 11:30 mornings, but he may spend additional time on the telephone at his home.

On the phone he quotes prayer promises such as Jeremiah 33:3, Isaiah 41:13, Psalm 46:1 or Psalm 23:1. "Most people like Isaiah 41:13," he said. "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

A 200-pound slab of granite engraved with Jeremiah 33:3 was a gift from Unity Church, Picayune, where he helped to dedicate the prayer chapel. A similar stone was placed in the chapel at Unity and this one in his office is to go in Parkway's new prayer chapel.

On his desk is Jack Taylor's Broadman book, Life's Limitless Reach. It is dedicated to four individuals, one of whom is W. R. Storie. One of the chapters is about Jabez. Taylor preached a sermon on Jabez at Parkway and dedicated it to Storie because he said the idea for the sermon came from Storie.

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NAMES IN THE NEWS

Chaplain (Major) William D. Harbour, United States Army, received the Mastor of Sacred Theology degree from Yale Divinity School on May 21. He also completed a year of basic and advanced training in clinical pastoral education at Yale-New

Harbour Haven Medical Center. Previously he had earned the B.A. degree from Mississippi College and the M.Div., and M.R.E. degrees from New Orleans Seminary as well as M.A. in counselling from Long Island University. A native of Philadelphia, Miss. he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ab D. Harbour and is married to the former Sara Beth Holland. He was ordained by First Church, Philadelphia. He and his family will be moving to Fort Sill, Okla. in June. His last assignment was with NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Damrong Charoonwathanawilai was ordained recently at Chaeungsoo Baptist Church, Thailand. He is the third Chinese-speaking pastor to be ordained in Southern Baptist work in Thailand and the first one in the more than 20-year history of Chaeungsoo church. Charoonwathanawilai, who has served Chaeungsoo church for more than 10 years, received seminary training in Hong Kong.

Elsie Taylor, a secretary in the Illinois Baptist state office of communications for the past seven years, has been named editorial assistant for "The Illinois Baptist" news publication. The new post was created following the resignation of John M. Whitman as managing editor, according to editor Robert J. Hastings.

Jimmy Robinson, Russell Woods, and Albert Britt were ordained deacons at Unity Church recently, near Duck Hill. Lavon Hatton, county missionary, preached the ordination message. Sonny Redwine is pastor.

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP) — Gerald Bruce Young, 26-year-old son of Southern Baptist missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Hilmon E. Young, was killed in a South Carolina automobile accident June 3, just two days after his parents began their service in Ghana, West Africa. Young apparently fell asleep at the wheel while driving to his home shortly after midnight. The Hilmon Youngs are missionary associates in Ghana, where he is a maintenance worker at the Nalerigu Baptist Medical Centre. They returned to the states for their son's funeral. Young was the father of two small children.

Sam Wolfe has resigned the pastorate of West Huntsville Church, Huntsville, Ala., and has entered the ministry of revival and evangelism. Wolfe, a native of Meridian and the son of a former Mississippi pastor, W. E. Wolfe, grew up in Mississippi and Alabama. He answered the call to preach as a Royal Ambassador at Camp Garaywa in 1947 and later attended Clarke College. Wolfe concluded his 16½ years ministry at West Huntsville Baptist Church on May 28. Under his leadership this church experienced an extraordinary growth. Over 2900 members were added, with over 1900 baptisms. The membership increased from 918 to over 2600. Budget offerings increased from \$48,000 in 1961 to over \$200,000 this past year. The church has maintained a weekly radio and television ministry for many years. Wolfe, a pastor for over 27 years, served as President of the Alabama Baptist Pastors' Conference in 1969-70. He is married to the former Marilyn Branch of Louisiana. He is the father of two sons, Lavone and Danny. Danny is a music evangelist and is a music director for the E. J. Daniels Revival Team. Wolfe will continue to live in Huntsville, Alabama where he may be contacted by phone at (205) 533-0498, and by mail at 1119 Retlaw Street, 35805.

Wolfe grew up in Mississippi and Alabama. He answered the call to preach as a Royal Ambassador at Camp Garaywa in 1947 and later attended Clarke College. Wolfe concluded his 16½ years ministry at West Huntsville Baptist Church on May 28. Under his leadership this church experienced an extraordinary growth. Over 2900 members were added, with over 1900 baptisms. The membership increased from 918 to over 2600. Budget offerings increased from \$48,000 in 1961 to over \$200,000 this past year. The church has maintained a weekly radio and television ministry for many years. Wolfe, a pastor for over 27 years, served as President of the Alabama Baptist Pastors' Conference in 1969-70. He is married to the former Marilyn Branch of Louisiana. He is the father of two sons, Lavone and Danny. Danny is a music evangelist and is a music director for the E. J. Daniels Revival Team. Wolfe will continue to live in Huntsville, Alabama where he may be contacted by phone at (205) 533-0498, and by mail at 1119 Retlaw Street, 35805.



Kelly Dampeer, Meridian (above right) was second place winner in the championship flight of the 13th annual Judson College invitational golf meet and David Larimore, Tupelo, first flight winner. Judson is the Alabama Baptist college for women and is located in Marion. N. H. McCrummen, left, college president, made the awards.



Jerry Swimmer, formerly minister of music and youth at First Church in Ripley, resigned his position last March to enter into full-time music evangelism. Swimmer remains on the staff of First Church as staff music evangelist. He will keep his headquarters in Ripley for the present time. Unless otherwise engaged he will be available to fill pulpits, give concerts or direct youth or adult retreats. Swimmer may be contacted at the Jerry Swimmer Evangelist Association, P. O. Box 556, Ripley, Miss. 38663, or called at 601-837-3332.

Paul E. Padgett, minister of music, youth, and education at First, Magee, and his wife left Monday, June 12, on a trip to Israel. The tour was a gift to them from the church.

Truitt Roberts, celebrated his fifth anniversary as minister of music at First, Starkville, on Sunday, May 28. He came to the state five years ago from Atlanta. The Starkville church music program now has about 900 enrolled in 30 groups (choral and bell), making it the largest music program in total enrollment in the state. Roberts serves this year as first vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Richard Morman was ordained to the gospel ministry by Unity Church (Sweatman community). Lavon Hatten, director of missions, Montgomery County, and Sonny Redwine, pastor, preached the ordination messages. Morman will be pastor of Edgeworth Church in Webster County.

The president of Blue Mountain College will address Judson College seniors June 24 at commencement exercises, in Marion, Ala. **E. Harold Fisher** is a former state supervisor of elementary education and a former assistant director of the Division of Instruction for the Mississippi State Department of Education. Judson, like Blue Mountain, is a Baptist liberal arts college for women. Classes were held for the first time there in January, 1839, since which the doors of the college have never been closed. Judson president N. H. McCrummen will award B.A. and B.S. degrees to 75 graduates at the June ceremony.

Graceville, Fl. — Three Baptist Bible Institute students from Mississippi graduated May 26 during graduation ceremonies held in the R. L. Price, Sr. Gymnasium of the Graceville High School, Graceville, Florida. **James L. Sullivan**, past president of the Southern Baptist Convention and former president of the Sunday School Board, SBC, brought the commencement message. Mississippi students receiving Diplomas in Theology were: **Milton E. Little** of Pascagoula and **James W. Shoemaker** of Hattiesburg. **Mrs. James (Lola Jane) Shoemaker** of Hattiesburg received a Diploma in Sacred Music (with honors).



William Long, sophomore in the School of Music at William Carey College, accepts the John D. Thomas Family Music Scholarship above from Mrs. John D. Thomas. The occasion was the recent Honors Day ceremonies at the college. Donna Byrd of Lucedale also won a similar scholarship. Long is from New Orleans, where he is a member of the Lake Forest Church.

A Man Who Amazed God

By Carl R. Nelson, Pastor, Pelahatchie Church

"When Jesus heard these things he marvelled at him" (Luke 7:9a). The term "marvel" means to be amazed, shocked, speechless. It is not unusual for us to be filled with wonder and amazement about our Lord, but it was most unusual when He found a man who AMAZED Him.



Nelson

What was it about this man that so deeply impressed our Saviour? Three beautiful qualities stand out in his life.

This Roman centurion had an AMAZING LOVE. He loved those who worked for him. One of his servants was critically ill and he did everything within his power to help him. He cared about him as a person and wanted him to live. His love was amazing also because he, a Gentile, deeply loved the Jews and gave the money needed to build their synagogue. The norm for Jew and Gentile relationship was hatred, not love, but the Jews confirmed this man's love in their report to Jesus.

This man also possessed an AMAZING HUMILITY. Humility, "a recognition of our moral littleness in comparison to God or our moral unworthiness in His sight," has always been a scarce virtue. The centurion believed that Jesus could heal his servant. However, not feeling that he himself was worthy to come personally to the Lord with his request, he sent his Jewish friends to intercede for him. They told Jesus he was worthy of being helped.

As Jesus drew near, the centurion's unworthiness overwhelmed him and he quickly sent other Jewish friends to tell him, "I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof."

The third quality that this man possessed was an AMAZING FAITH. He first thought it was necessary for Jesus to be present to heal his servant but then he realized that this was not necessary. "Tell Jesus not to come but just speak a word and my servant will be healed," he instructed his friends.

He compared his faith in the Lord's authority and power to his own power and authority as a Roman officer and as a master over his servants. Those under his authority were obedient to his spoken word. He was saying, "I believe you are the Lord of heaven and earth, that you have a authority and power over all things, and that your power can be released through the words that you speak."

When Jesus heard these things, he stood speechless in amazement and turning, said to those who followed Him, "I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." Jesus had found what he had been looking for. Surprisingly, it was in the life of a Gentile instead of a Jew.

50th Anniversary

Camp Ridgecrest Plans Celebration

RIDGECREST, N. C. — Camp Ridgecrest for Boys will celebrate its 50th anniversary with an alumni dinner August 11 in the camp dining hall.

Rick Johnson, director of Camp Ridgecrest, said he hoped many former campers, staffers and directors would attend the celebration and renew acquaintances from their days at the camp.

Special arrangements have been made with Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, located across the highway from Camp Ridgecrest, for visiting alumni to stay in their facilities on the night of August 11.

Camp Ridgecrest for Boys, organized in 1928, has 400 boys, ages eight to 16, each summer. While in

camp boys participate in outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, canoeing, archery, horseback riding and swimming.

Johnson said that during the camp's 50 years of operation, over 15,000 campers had been involved in the program, plus nearly 2,000 staff members.

Closing ceremonies for the 50th summer of Camp Ridgecrest will be held August 12, the evening after the alumni dinner. Cost for the dinner will be \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children.

Camp alumni interested in attending the celebration should contact Rick Johnson, director, Camp Ridgecrest for Boys, P. O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770.

Uniform Lesson



Willis Will Supervise Adult Church Training

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Avery T. Willis Jr., will become supervisor of the adult section in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church training department, effective August 1, church training director Roy Edgemon said.

A missionary to Indonesia since 1964, Willis, 44, has been president of the Indonesian Baptist Theological Seminary since 1973.

He expects to give immediate attention to the introduction of Equipping Centers, a short-term training approach for adults, for which the first materials will be available in July, 1979.

He said he expects to lead in developing an increased emphasis on personal growth and discipleship training through adult periodicals and other resources.

At the Indonesian seminary, Willis

expanded the school from a single campus to several smaller extension centers providing training for professional and lay ministers. Enrollment has increased from 125 to 450 students.

He has written a manual for writers to use in curriculum development, authored numerous books and articles in the Indonesian language and in English, and produced films for use both in Indonesia and the United States. He will write the church training department's 1980 doctrinal emphasis book for adults.

A native of Arkansas, Willis is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned his doctor of theology degree in 1974. He served for 10 years as pastor of churches in Texas and Oklahoma.

Responding To The Good News

By Hardy Denham, First, Newton
Acts 16:25-34

Have you ever been given wrong directions? While in Washington, D. C. I asked a cab driver for directions. I knew where I wanted to go, and certainly he knew the city. However, even though I followed his directions to the letter I ended up miles from my destination.

The witness given by a Christian is a vital part of man's response to the gospel. How important it is that the information given by Christians be accurate. A jailer in ancient Philippi was able to respond to the good news because Paul was able to tell him how to be saved.

I. THE INTERVENTION OF GOD Verses 25-26

The area in which Philippi was located is earthquake-prone. Earthquakes are commonplace there. However, there can be no question that the earthquake that long-ago night was miraculous. The miracle was not in what happened but when and to what degree it took place.

First, Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises (verse 25). What one does when the night is darkest reveals character. Jewelers place diamonds on black velvet cloth in order to accentuate their beauty. So against the blackness of adversity one can see the brilliance of character. Second, the earthquake was sufficiently severe to wreck the prison, even breaking chains that bound the inmates, yet doing no harm to a single

person (verse 26).

There can be no doubt that the earthquake, though commonplace in that area, was an intervention of God. The Lord proved Himself able when His men were in need.

II. THE INTERROGATION OF THE JAILER — Verses 27-32

The jailer was ready to commit suicide, believing his charges had escaped (verse 27). He would have had to forfeit his life for an escaped prisoner. However, Paul assured him that no one had escaped (verse 28). That fact in itself is also a miracle. The others in the prison were not the kind of men the apostles were. They were hardened criminals, yet having the means of escape they did not do so.

When the jailer saw that no prisoner had escaped, he stated his interrogation about salvation (verses 29-30). The salvation in question was spiritual for his life was no longer in any danger. What brought that man to his knees? I am persuaded that he had heard the gospel preached by Paul, either before the apostles' arrest or even in the dungeon. The fact coupled with the traumatic event of that night doubtless caused the jailer to realize his need.

Beyond question, the earnestness of his plea made it evident that his was no academic inquiry. He was not asking a question to gain information for the sake of information. He wanted to be saved and his plea had the urgency of a man face to face with his own need.

The apostles answered his interrogation, supplying the information he needed (verses 31-32). The information given emphasized a Person — the Lord Jesus. We do not present a plan, but a Person of salvation. The information emphasized a performance — "Believe." The information emphasized a promise — "you will be saved." Notice, the apostles were aware that the man's household needed salvation also. Given the opportunity, they preached the gospel to them as well (verse 32).

III. THE INDICATIONS OF SALVATION — Verses 33-34

There are two clear indications that the jailer and his family were saved that night. First, there is the indication of a changed life (verse 33). A man dedicated to cruelty and harsh

punishment became an angel of mercy and kindness. He was probably the man who had whipped the preachers (verses 22-23), and then he treated their wounds. Second, there is the indication of a joyous spirit (verse 34). Paul and Silas had been rejoicing in the dungeon, and the jailer and his family experienced the same joy. When people know Christ they have reason for joy. Someone paraphrased Psalms 40:1-3, "The Lord took me out of the mire and put me in the choir." Salvation is a knowable experience.

Obviously the one who experiences God's saving grace can know he or she has been saved (1 John 5:13). However, when God does His work of transformation in a life others will see the evidence. A Christian has the obligation to tell people about Christ and witness to what the Lord has done for him. However, the words he speaks should be an explanation of what other people have already seen. Certainly the acquaintances of this jailer and his family saw a change in them. Can the same be said about those who know you?

Life and Work Lesson

Joseph — Man's Faith And God's Providence

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First
Genesis 39:7-9; 41:14-16; 45:15-21a

The musical hit "Oklahoma" opens with a song describing the elated feeling of the hero on a beautiful morning in which everything was going his way. Have you had times when you thought "you had it made?" The test of euphoria and prosperity can be a greater test than disappointment and poverty.

Arthur J. Gossip preached a sermon entitled, "But When Life Tumbles In, What Then?" in which he gave his reactions when his wife died suddenly. From *The Pilgrim's Progress* he quoted Joseph who calls back across the Jordan to his friend: "Be of good cheer, my brother, for I feel the bottom, and it is sound." Faith in God helps us survive adversity by enduring it, even when we do not understand.

Joseph is a great example of persevering faith. The acts of adversity helped him to mature for effective service.

When Life Falls In

Joseph might have been called a "fink" by his peers in today's world. As an older teenager (seventeen) he brought to his father a report on his

brother's bad behavior. The coat of many colors and his dreams of superiority led his brothers to like him less and less.

Jealousy had turned to hatred, and hatred dreamed of murder. While in the pit where his brothers threw him, Joseph must have wondered, "What have I done to deserve all this?"

After the Egyptian bought Joseph, he discovered that Joseph was a good, hard worker. As a result, he put him in charge of his household and possessions. Everything was going Joseph's way. His youthful dreams seemed to come true.

The wife of Potiphar made advances for him to sin with her in sex. Joseph resisted the temptation. Instead of Joseph's being rewarded, the woman lied to her husband. The husband lost his confidence in Joseph and had him placed in prison. The righteous man had to suffer for being righteous.

Trials came to all of us. Joseph was used selfishly by Potiphar. In addition, Potiphar's wife sought to use him sexually. But God used the trials to strengthen Joseph's character and faith.

Faith Sees Us Through

How long can one wait — out of the

game, in the dark and in the dungeon? Just when things began to go better for Joseph he was down again. He discovered the basis of patience and fidelity. When his dreams were smashed and life seemed empty all he had was the realization of the Lord's presence. "But the Lord was with Joseph."

God was taking care of Joseph and he knew it. His kindness directed the keeper of the prison to favor Joseph. Soon Joseph was overseer of the prison and trusted with the welfare of the prisoners. He sought the cause of the sadness of the butler and the baker. They told him their dreams and he interpreted them. The butler forgot all about Joseph once he was free.

All that Joseph had in prison was the presence of the Lord. His continual trust in God bolstered his courage though life appeared to be passing him by.

When Pharaoh dreamed, the butler remembered Joseph and informed Pharaoh. Joseph interpreted the dream of plenty and famine and suggested plans. Pharaoh saw God's hand in it and honored Joseph. His continual references to God in the conversation with Pharaoh were well received, and the ruler recognized God's

spirit in Joseph.

Joseph's durability is impressive, but then so is his ability to communicate his faith. His faith had stood the test of durability. Testimony to God's power and providence often comes from the strangest sources and signs. From Pharaoh's prison to Pharaoh's right hand position is a gift of God's providence.

Back when our children were small and we lived in a tiny Texas town, our toddler fell and cut her lower lip. Although it was late in the evening, my husband insisted on taking her to the town's only doctor, who examined her and wrote a prescription to be filled by the town's only druggist.

Without stopping to decipher the prescription, my husband went directly to the pharmacy. It was already closed, but the druggist came down, opened up the store, and set cheerfully about filling the very urgent prescription — for an ice cream cone.

—Lottie Schlottman

Sharps Hold Open House

Kermit and Olga Sharp will have open house at their home in Philadelphia on June 18 from 2 until 4:30 p.m. At 595 Center Avenue, the home is owned by the Kemper-Neshoba Baptist Association, where Sharp is director of missions.

Fire practically destroyed the house on January 10. It has been restored and refurbished.